



**Proceedings**  
of the  
**67<sup>th</sup> Plenary**  
of the  
**North Eastern Council**

held *on*  
**9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2018**

At  
**State Convention Centre,  
Pinewood Hotel,  
Shillong**

\*\*\*\*\*

## INDEX

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page No</b>
<b>Part A</b>	Proceedings of the Plenary Session	1
<b>Part B</b>	Actionable points Sector-wise culled out from the written Speeches of the Hon'ble Members of the Council	44
<b>Part C</b>	Programme of the 67 <sup>th</sup> Plenary of NEC	113
<b>Part D</b>	Annexures	114
<b>I</b>	Address of Chairman, NEC	115
<b>II</b>	Address of Vice Chairman, NEC	121
<b>III</b>	Secretary's Report	127
<b>IV</b>	List of Participants	151
<b>V</b>	Speeches of Hon'ble Members of NEC	159
<b>(a)</b>	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd), Hon'be Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	160
<b>(b)</b>	Prof. Jagdish Mukhi, Hon'ble Governor of Assam	170
<b>(c)</b>	Dr. Najma Heptulla, Hon'ble Governor of Manipur	173
<b>(d)</b>	Shri Ganga Prasad, Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya	178
<b>(e)</b>	Shri Kummanam Rajasekharan, Hon'ble Governor of Mizoram	183
<b>(f)</b>	Shri P.B. Acharya, Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland	187
<b>(g)</b>	Shri Shriniwas Patil, Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim	191
<b>(h)</b>	Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh	196
<b>(i)</b>	Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam	203
<b>(j)</b>	Shri N. Biren Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur	208
<b>(k)</b>	Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya	212
<b>(l)</b>	Shri Lal Thanhawla, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram	217

<b>(m)</b>	Shri Neiphiu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland	222
<b>(n)</b>	Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura	230
<b>VI</b>	Power Point Presentations by Central Ministries	238

# **PART – A**

## **Proceedings of the Plenary Session**

## PART – A

### **Proceedings of the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of the North Eastern Council held on the 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 at the State Convention Centre, Pine Wood Hotel, Shillong**

The 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting of the North Eastern Council was held at Shillong on the 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2018. Shri Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Home Minister and Chairman, NEC presided over the meeting. Dr. Jitendra Singh, Hon'ble Minister (I/C) DoNER and Vice Chairman, NEC also attended the meeting. The Hon'ble Governors of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim and the Chief Ministers of the Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura participated in the meeting. The Governor of Tripura and the Chief Ministers of Manipur and Sikkim could not attend the meeting.

2. At the outset, Secretary, NEC formally welcomed all the participants to the meeting and invited the Hon'ble Minister (IC) DoNER and Vice Chairman, NEC to present his Opening Remarks followed by the Inaugural Address by the Hon'ble Home Minister and Chairman, NEC.

<b>3. Agenda Item</b>	<b>Opening remarks of the Hon'ble Minister (IC) DoNER and Vice Chairman, NEC</b>
-----------------------	--

*The written speech of the Hon'ble Minister (IC) DoNER and Vice Chairman, NEC was distributed in the Plenary and taken as read. Important points of the oral delivery are presented in the following paragraphs:-*

The Hon'ble Minister (IC) DoNER and Vice Chairman in his Opening Remarks stated that this would be the first occasion that the Home Minister of the country is chairing the Plenary. He then indicated that as per the Hon'ble Prime Minister's advice during the 65th Plenary on 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2016, the NEC is being repositioned and reoriented to become a state of the art resource centre for all NE States. He also referred to the initiative of the Government to establish a special forum for the North East called the NITI-NER Forum the first meeting of which was held on the 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2018.

The Hon'ble Vice Chairman informed the Plenary of the Cabinet decision to allot Rs. 4500 crore for the Schemes of the NEC for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20 which will be 100% funded by the Central Government. He also stated that, in order to improve cancer care in the Region, the B. Baruah Cancer Institute, Guwahati has now been handed over to the Department of Atomic Energy as a result of which facilities as in the DAE run Tata Memorial Cancer Centre at Mumbai, would be made available to the BBCI, Guwahati.

He also informed the Plenary about the acquisition of 1.3 acres of land at Dwarka, Delhi for setting up a Convention-cum-Cultural Centre dedicated for the North East. Similarly, apart from the hostel at the JNU campus, Delhi, another hostel for the students of the North East is being constructed at Rohini, Delhi. On entrepreneurship, he mentioned about the initiative of the MDoNER in setting up the North East Venture Capital Fund to attract entrepreneurs in setting up units in the NER. He expressed confidence that the Fund will go a long way in making the NE as a favourite destination for investment & start-ups by the youth.

<b>4. Agenda Item</b>	<b>Inaugural Address by the Hon'ble Home Minister and Chairman, NEC</b>
-----------------------	---

*The written speech of the Hon'ble Home Minister and Chairman, NEC was distributed in the Plenary and taken as read. Important points of the oral delivery are presented in the following paragraphs: -*

The Hon'ble Home Minister and Chairman, NEC welcomed all the Members of the NEC and the officers of the State Governments and Central Government. He reiterated the commitment of the Government to ensure the socio-economic development of the NER so that this Region progresses alongwith the rest of the country. He recalled the Hon'ble Prime Minister's address to the 65<sup>th</sup> Plenary on 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2016, wherein he had stated that if the western region of the country could make progress, then there is no plausible reason why the North Eastern Region could not progress.

He also referred to the efforts of the Government to establish strong links of the NER with that of the ASEAN countries through the Act East Policy, particularly, the interactive session in May, 2018 of the Hon'ble External Affairs Minister with the Chief Ministers of the Region. He indicated that NEC can be the right forum for formulation and implementation of a road map to ensure the goals of the Act East Policy. The meetings of the newly created NITI-NER Forum may be held regularly to deliberate on bottlenecks in the path of accelerated, inclusive development of the region, and action on the recommendations may be pursued by NEC.

Mentioning about the approval of North East Industrial Development Scheme (NEIDS), 2017, he urged the Chief Ministers to create a conducive environment for industrial development. He also suggested that in the

agriculture sector, a new thinking and system should emerge, focussing on low volume and high value products. It is good that some states are focusing on kiwis, floriculture and oil palm. Infrastructure for processing and marketing of such products should also be developed to export these products.

He referred to the potential of investments in tourism, medical health care, waste management, handicrafts and handloom products, etc. He suggested that the NEC may discuss in this forum how to encourage start-ups in these sectors.

He also expressed hope that the NEC Plenary would discuss ways and means to improve livelihoods and mentioned the work done by NERCORMP in this regard. He suggested that there should be coordination between NERCORMP and Central Ministries and State Governments, etc. and that would also enable dissemination of best practices. On the role of civil society and general public, he hoped that social audit would give information on utilization of funds and improve implementation of the schemes.

Referring to the programme for ‘Transformation of Aspirational Districts’ programme, he expressed hope that NEC plenary will deliberate on strategies to transform the 14 identified Districts of the North East as leading examples for others to emulate.

Hon’ ble Chairman referred to the Cabinet’s approval of Rs. 4,500 crore funding for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20 and directed that the NEC should focus on specific areas and seek to converge the schemes and programmes with those of the Central Government departments. He also urged the State Governments and the NEC to ensure that the ongoing schemes are completed within the scheduled time period, so that additional funding can be sought from Ministry of Finance during 2018-19.



The Hon'ble Chairman stressed on the need for review and stock taking of the various recommendations of the various reports and Vision Document for the development of North Eastern Region. He suggested that the short-term, medium-term and long-term road maps along with detailed information about the projects should be taken up and the need to reorient our development strategy from time to time and that a special session of the NEC may be called for preparing the future road map.

Hon'ble Home Minister mentioned that after the recent Cabinet approval on the lines of other Zonal Councils, the NEC can now be used for discussion and resolution of Inter-State and Centre-State issues and also discuss pressing issues pertaining to internal security. Noting that private investment economic activity and development would not be possible without peace, he stated that in the last four years, there have been considerable improvements in the internal security situation in all the parameters. He mentioned that the Armed Forces Special Power Act has been withdrawn from Meghalaya and the disturbed area in Arunachal Pradesh has been reduced on which discussion would also be held in this NEC Plenary.

<b>5. Agenda Item</b>	<b>Speeches by Hon'ble Members</b>
-----------------------	------------------------------------

Secretary, NEC then invited the Hon'ble Members of the NEC to make oral speeches.

*The written speeches of the Hon'ble Governors and Chief Ministers were distributed in the Plenary and taken as read. The full texts of the written speeches of the Hon'ble Members are annexed to the proceedings. The sector wise, actionable points culled out from the written speeches would be circulated separately so as to enable effective follow up action. The important points of the*

*oral presentation of the Hon'ble Members are presented in the following paragraphs.*

**5.1 Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Brig. (Dr.) B.D Mishra (Retd.):**

Hon'ble Governor suggested that NEC may expand its outreach from its present role of funding projects to act as a think tank and highest policy making body, monitoring all the investments and development in the North Eastern Region (NER). He welcomed the focus of NEC on regional tourism. He requested that the outreach of NERCORMP can be expanded to all blocks bordering China. He proposed a new acronym for the eight North Eastern States was suggested as 'ASTAM NAMAM', meaning 'salute to great eight'. He mentioned there are eight common interest areas of the NE States i.e., surface and air connectivity network, internet and mobile connectivity, organic farming, agro-produce promotion and marketing, bamboo production and marketing, education (primary and secondary), hydro power potential and insurgency. The issues of migration of the border area population and Border Area Development; development of Tirap, Longding and Changlang area; enhancing trade through Border Check posts were raised. He also recommended that a Strategic policy research cell may be established in Rajiv Gandhi University to facilitate discussion on border related issues across the NER.

**5.2 Hon'ble Governor of Assam, Shri Jagdish Mukhi:**

The Hon'ble Governor requested that NEC and Ministry of DoNER may draw up an action plan for positioning North East as the springboard for India's Act East Policy and suggested that a project of making Guwahati the Kunming of India which can stimulate the growth of other North Eastern States can be conceptualised. ASEAN countries may be impressed upon to set up their

consulates in Guwahati. He also suggested that the NEC could promote investment in relevant sectors to create jobs for the youths in the region. He requested NEC to provide necessary support for introduction of multi-cropping system along with extension of research activities and skill upgradation of farmers to achieve the Prime Minister's vision of doubling farmers' income by 2022. On the lines of transforming Aspirational Districts, NEC was requested to take such initiative for other backward areas of North Eastern states for all round development of the region.

### **5.3 Hon'ble Governor of Manipur, Dr. Najma Heptulla:**

The Hon'ble Governor opined that the devolution and distribution of fund of the NEC should not be based on population or area so as to enable balance development all the eight NE States. She mentioned that while a thrust has been given for clearing committed liabilities of ongoing projects, the funds for new projects as per normative allocation of 12% and for regional projects after consulting with other States be provided. She suggested that Ministry of Finance may be requested to enhance allocation of NEC and re-allocate Rs.4500 crores for adjusting liabilities of new projects already sanctioned by NEC. She also suggested that sectors of sports and water resources may be included under the eligible sector of NEC. She requested for an early launch of the Air Dispensary scheme for providing quality health services in the rural and hilly areas of Manipur and other adjoining states. She urged that exploration of the potential of oil and gas in Manipur may be taken up. She suggested that since all the NE states produced similar kind of products like handicrafts, textiles, bamboo products, there should be a joint strategy for marketing those products.

### **5.4 Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya, Shri Ganga Prasad:**

The Hon'ble Governor mentioned about the on-going mission mode interventions in various sectors like aquaculture, horticulture, apiculture, livestock, silk, water mission and the recently launched Lakadong Mission and

requested for support from NEC in setting up of export-related infrastructure including certification agency, packaging, cold storage facilities, food processing units, development of rural markets, etc in different locations to boost export to Bangladesh and neighbouring countries. He suggested that adequate budget provision should be made to facilitate participation of the youth of NER in international youth exchange programmes in the neighbouring countries and ASEAN countries. He requested NEC for early sanction of the proposals for roads under NERSDS. He suggested that NEC should facilitate disaster mitigation and set up a Regional Institute for Disaster Management. Financial and technical assistance for NEC for strengthening of the bio resources development centre at Shillong for production of quality planting material was sought. He suggested that NEC can take a pro-active role in disseminating information about the schemes and programmes of the Government of India.

#### **5.5 Hon'ble Governor of Mizoram, Shri Kummanam Rajshekran:**

The Hon'ble Governor welcomed the re-positioning of NEC and suggested that it may be appropriately equipped or strengthened. He requested NEC to play a meaningful role in the protection and improvement of ecology and environment. He mentioned that massive investment would be required in the roads sector and that NEC would need to continue to play active role in infrastructure development. He requested NEC to coordinate with the line Ministry and fast track the progress in digital connectivity, particularly in the National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN), which is now known as "Bharat Net". He also suggested that steps may be taken to enhance the budget of NEC significantly as the State would continue to depend on support from Central Government.

#### **5.6 Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland, Shri P.B Archarya:**

The Hon'ble Governor welcomed the recent re-positioning of NEC into a Council for conflict resolution, development planning and knowledge hub. He stated that NEC schemes should be extended beyond 2020. He requested NEC to provide support in the agriculture sector in market linkage and cold storage as well as in processing and packaging so that the returns to farmers would be linked to the prevalent market price. He suggested strengthening and upgradation of the Central Institute of Horticulture into a full-fledged Regional institute of horticulture. His other suggestions were support by NEC for hydro-electric projects in the State and in skill development and entrepreneurship as well as setting up a committee of local experts and users to help in identifying the constraints in improving connectivity in the State. He urged that evaluation and monitoring of projects may be undertaken by third party and not only by the Government officials.

#### **5.7 Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim, Shri Shrinivas Patil:**

The Hon'ble Governor requested for assistance to strengthen the facilities and amenities for border trade in China. He requested for support by NEC in technology, storage, cold chain and marketing of organic produce and offer to share its expertise in organic farming and floriculture with other States in the NER. He suggested that National Highway (NH-10) may be converted to four-lane highway with tunnels wherever feasible. He also requested for support to implement the Sustainable Development Goals at the grass-root level more efficiently and comprehensively. While welcoming the recommendation of the Central Government to provide 100% funding for new schemes of NEC stated that NEC needs to be provided additional funds to meet its committed liabilities and take up new projects. He mentioned that only Rs.31 crore were allocated by NEC in the last year which may be enhanced. State Government has utilised Rs.147.48 crore against release of Rs.169.29 crore by NEC and requested for early sanction of the new projects. He requested that the sports sector may be

eligible for funding by NEC. He also raised the issues made by Secretary, NEC in his letter of 8.5.2018 and requested that further action on implementation of NEC projects sanctioned in 2017-18 may be taken up expeditiously.

### **5.8 Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Shri Pema Khandu:**

Chief Minister, Arunachal Pradesh suggested that NEC may expand its role from a mere funding agency to act as a premier think-tank body of the North Eastern Region which guides the North Eastern States in bringing sustainable development in the region. He also brought out the need to bring in domain experts and technical experts in the NEC who could help in developing a clear road map. He urged the NEC to institute a detailed study as to how to maximise the potential of the vast area of Arunachal Pradesh using technology. He welcomed the NITI forum for North East and urged NEC to tie up with NITI Aayog and also showcase best practices of the States.

He mentioned that there is hardly any externally aided project in Arunachal Pradesh and requested NEC to examine creation of a separate fund which focuses on big road projects in the NER. He welcomed the focus on regional tourism, and requested for enhancing the budget of NEC. Stating that the cost of land acquisition of the Greenfield airport at Hollongi has been reduced substantially, he requested additional funds for this project.

Mentioning about the Dream Change Arunachal Conclave 2027 and the State Conclave on Prospective Planning for Resurgent Agriculture organised by the State Government, he sought assistance for the proposal of bringing 7 lakh hectares of additional cultivable land under micro irrigation at an estimated cost of Rs.17, 712 crore under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY). He requested NEC to establish a Regional Research Institute for Agriculture and Allied sector in Arunachal Pradesh. He suggested that NEC could support

realising the potential of the bamboo sector through an integrated value chain project which links the farmers with the bamboo processing facilities. He also requested for technical support in establishing forward and backward linkages in Agriculture and Horticulture sector which includes Cold chain processing units, IT Support to implement e-NAM and connect them with potential markets.

Other suggestions made by CM Arunachal Pradesh regarding NEC included providing a platform to enable formal interaction with the banks to penetrate banking services in remote areas; fostering linkages with prestigious Cancer Care institutions of the country and exploring the possibility of opening critical care unit in TRIHMS hospital by providing additional funds.

He offered that 15 hydro power projects which were leased to private sector can be handed over to Central PSUs on mutually agreed conditions. He sought support on the proposal sent to Ministry of Home Affairs for socio-economic development of Tirap, Changlang and Longding districts at a cost of Rs.1524 crore. He requested that sectors of sports, irrigation, flood control may be retained with the NEC. He requested for a review on the decision of the NEC to put on hold the 33 new projects sanctioned for the year 2017-18. He further stated that the NEC and Government of Arunachal Pradesh had arrived at a consensus for cancellation of 24 ongoing projects and requested that the funds of these project be compensated in other projects. He also highlighted the difficulties in not having a separate cadre of civil service officers.

#### **5.9 Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal:**

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam stated that NEC may take up issues of infrastructure projects like roads, waterways, airways and telecom for better connectivity with South-East Asia with concerned Ministries of Government of India. He suggested that NEC may fund BSNL in payment of rentals for initial

few years so that the region gets the requisite high speed connectivity and bandwidth from Cox Bazar landing station in Bangladesh to become an IT hub. He requested that NEC may coordinate with Ministry of External Affairs for opening up of consulates of ASEAN countries in Guwahati; facilitate easy movement, and encourage people to people contact of North-East India with South and South-East Asia, which will lead to more tourism, trade and commerce. He suggested that North-East Council may think of hosting festival in each of the ASEAN countries to project the rich heritage, culture, handlooms, handicrafts, industrial and tourist potential of all North-Eastern States.

Stating that North-East is the store house of water resource in the country, he recommended setting up of an effective planning and management authority for the Brahmaputra Barak Basin which would help in solving problems of flood and erosion. He suggested that in the lines of Soil Health card a scheme to inform farmers about health of water may be taken up. He suggested that NEC may form an organic certification agency for the whole region and may consider setting up of North-East Organic Agriculture University. He focussed on promoting value addition in bamboo and using latest technology to harness the vast resources of bamboo in the region.

He requested NEC to include districts of Assam in any new initiative in livelihood promotion. He requested NEC to streamline the procedure of sanctioning of projects and suggested release of funds in two instalments. He also suggested development of an integrated multitrade training Centre and knowledge corridor in all the NE State capitals to encourage entrepreneurship among the youth. He mentioned that NEC can play an important role in chalking out programmes for promoting brotherhood amongst communities living on both sides of inter-State borders.

#### **5.10 Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya, Shri Conrad K Sangma:**



The Chief Minister, Meghalaya stated that although around Rs. 54,000 crore is available for various developmental works for the NER, there are various developmental activities which do not fit into the different Schemes of the Central Government and therefore requested for additional funds for NEC so that the States can enjoy the flexibility provided therein. He also referred to the issue of NEC projects taken up during 2017-18.

He requested the intervention of the Chairman, NEC for providing funds for the various projects costing about Rs 1500 crore for the 2022 National Games which will coincide with 50 years of Statehood of Meghalaya. On air connectivity, he mentioned that the extension of runway in Umeroi airport would require cutting of the nearby mountain leading to huge cost implications for which he requested financial assistance. He also referred to the Baljek airport in Garo Hills.

Regarding the Act East Policy, CM Meghalaya suggested the setting up of foreign language institutes in the languages of countries in the ASEAN region and supported the demand for starting of international flights from the NER. He also suggested having rotational meetings of the NITI-NER Forum with specific agenda items like infiltration and illegal immigration, climate change, water resources, etc. He further suggested that the Chief Ministers of the NE States together can visit Dhaka, Myanmar, Bhutan etc so that a positive signal is sent to these countries so that focussed and concrete strategies could evolve.

He welcomed the focus on livelihood schemes which are very relevant in the areas which were till recently affected by militancy.

He also stressed on the need to focus on climate change and felt that a study should be conducted on mitigation measures and adaptation to climate

change. He mentioned that Meghalaya is adopting green and eco business and gave the example of tapioca-based bags which are 100% biodegradable.

#### **5.11 Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram, Pu Lalthanhawla:**

The Hon'ble Chief Minister mentioned that he concurred with the points highlighted by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya. Referring to the NEC budget from 2017-18 to 2019-2020, he advocated additional funds for NEC to take up new projects. He indicated that steps are being taken to clear the liabilities of ongoing schemes.

He requested that the issue of project sanctioned during 2017-18 which are currently on hold will be resolved at the earliest. While welcoming the repositioning of NEC for conflict resolution and knowledge hub, he recommended that the NEC should be appropriately equipped.

He suggested that NEC may help State Governments in establishing institutes of repute and sought support for establishment of the first medical college in Mizoram. He suggested that a detailed product and market specific study of the region's export potential and its competitiveness developed infrastructure and involving the local people is required to make the Act East Policy more meaningful.

On the Act East Policy, he suggested that a policy document with detailed action plan covering inter alia digital connectivity, cultural exchange, trade and investment for the NER may be prepared by NEC. Mention was made for support for cultural exchange, etc. with South East Asian countries.

Stating about the achievements of the State Government, particularly in sustainable development, he complemented the NEC for circulating its growth

strategy to other States. He also mentioned that there is ample scope for larger involvement of the NEC for socio-economic development of the region.

### **5.12 Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland, Shri Neiphu Rio:**

Hon'ble Chief Minister stated that there are only two flights from Dimapur and there is no connection between Dimapur and Guwahati and requested for operation by Air India. Stating that Rs. 90 lakh were given for survey of the Green field airport at Cheithu for which 300 acres of land was acquired, he requested NEC to coordinate with Airports Authority of India so that an early decision can be taken.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister stated that the aspirations are too high while the budget is limited and expressed optimism that NEC budget will be enhanced.

He mentioned that the present system of approval of projects is time consuming. He requested for early decision on the projects that have been sent as per the priority list. The CM Nagaland suggested reconsideration of the decision to put on hold all the new projects sanctioned from April 2017 as works have been started, funds released have been spent and Utilization Certificate submitted to NEC.

Mentioning about the decision taken by the 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Committee of NEC for establishment of Regional Institutes in NER he proposed establishment of Regional Institute of Architecture & Planning; Institute of Music, Art & Culture; and North East Institute of Skill Development in Nagaland.

He requested that NEC may make a recommendation to NITI Aayog and Ministry of Tribal Affairs to amend the existing guidelines so that States like Nagaland which have almost 100% tribal population, are eligible for funding under the tribal sub-plan.

He suggested that NEC Plenary be held in all the NE States on a rotational basis to let every State avail the opportunity to host the meeting.

### **5.13 Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura, Shri Biplab Kumar Deb:**

At the outset, Honourable Chief Minister congratulated the Home Minister and Chief Minister, Mizoram for resolving the issue of Bru migrants which has been lingering for 22 years.

He mentioned that jackfruit, queen pineapple, rubber and tea. He requested for help from NEC in marketing and exports of agricultural produce which will fulfil the aim to double farmers' incomes. He requested for constituting a committee to focus on marketing of these products.

He suggested that NEC can act as catalyst by providing 10% by various Central Ministries projects on behalf of Government of India in the North Eastern Region. He also suggested that NEC may utilize its available expertise to create a Status Reporting Framework (an illustrative dashboard) by collecting necessary information on a timely basis from various Ministries with regards to the status of expenditure incurred by them.

Referring to the initiatives in Jammu & Kashmir for sending their students to tour the IIMs & IITs located in other parts of the country, he suggested that similar initiatives be taken for the students of the NE States.

He endorsed the suggestion of the Chief Minister, Meghalaya to visit the countries of South East Asia and Bangladesh. He also stressed on the need to complete the bridge at Feni River at the earliest which is quite near to Chittagong port in Bangladesh. He stated that the infrastructure for internet

connectivity should be improved and strengthened in the North East, considering that North East is a store house of natural sports talent and medal won by Ms. Dipa Karmakar in the last Olympics reflects that, he recommended special emphasis on sports for the NER may be given.

<b>6. Agenda Item</b>	<p><b>(a) Confirmation of the Proceedings of the 66<sup>th</sup> Plenary of NEC held on 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 and</b></p> <p><b>(b) Tabling of the Action Taken Report of the 66<sup>th</sup> Plenary Agenda Points</b></p>
-----------------------	---

The proceedings of the 66<sup>th</sup> Plenary were confirmed and the Action Taken Report of the 66<sup>th</sup> Plenary was tabled.

<b>7. Agenda Item</b>	<p><b>(a) Report of NEC – Secretary, NEC and</b></p> <p><b>(b) Approval of the NEC Budget for the year 2018-19</b></p>
-----------------------	--

Secretary, NEC presented a Report on the performance of NEC in the year 2017-18 highlighting the important achievements/ initiatives of NEC as well as challenges faced. A copy of the Secretary’s Report is placed in Part-B of the Proceedings as **Annexure – II**. The Secretary, NEC while presenting the Report laid the structure of the presentation into five parts (i) important events and initiatives; (ii) setting up of iconic institutes; (iii) issues which need urgent attention; (iv) important activities during the last one year, and (v) concerns and challenges.

The approved budget of the NEC for the FY 2018-19 was placed before the Members of the NEC for their information. A copy of the same is placed as Annexure –II.

<b>8. Agenda Item</b>	<p>(a) <b>Cabinet approval for continuation of NEC Schemes till 2020 and</b></p> <p>(b) <b>Approval of Revised NEC Guidelines in view of the Cabinet decision.</b></p>
-----------------------	--

In his presentation, Planning Adviser, NEC apprised the Hon'ble Members that the NEC would concentrate on those sectors that require cross-Ministerial interventions benefiting more than one state and therefore may not be taken up by any individual Central Ministry or State Government. Some of these areas were identified in the regional plan prepared by NEC. He said that the Union Cabinet has inter-alia approved continuation of existing schemes within the existing funding pattern (90:10) till March, 2020 and implementation of new projects in specified sectors on 100% Central funding.

**The focus areas for NEC during the period 2017-18 to 2019-20 would be bamboo sector; piggery; regional tourism; S&T interventions in the NER; surveys & investigations; promotion of the North Eastern Region. NEC would also focus on higher education, tertiary healthcare (including health education) & special interventions in backward areas; (a) support to augmenting infrastructure of higher education including hostels etc., (b) support to tertiary healthcare (including medicinal education), both State & Centre in NER to cater to the need of the region which would in turn attract both education and medical tourists from neighbouring countries, (c) special interventions in the Sixth schedule areas, backward districts and militancy affected districts & Autonomous Council Areas, in the form of**

**creation of supports and infrastructure, training of teachers of science and mathematics, (d) Telemedicine in above areas and (e) Educational interventions through remote media like satellite TV, digital and other media. Livelihood projects is another thrust area for NEC, where interventions throughout the value chain from production till processing and packaging in areas like floriculture, aromatic & medicinal plants, horticulture, poultry, fishery, handloom, handicraft and bee-keeping could be taken up.**

Planning Adviser, NEC also mentioned about the recommendation of the Expenditure Finance Committee that emphasis may be given on completing the on-going projects, dropping non-feasible projects and focussing on big ticket projects having inter-state ramifications and employment generation potential.

He stated that the Cabinet had also approved development of an appropriate institutional mechanism, as recommended by Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) for optimization of resources through convergence and synergy among schemes across all Ministries / Departments. He pointed out as per the draft revised guidelines the projects would now be identified by the Project Identification Committee (PIC) and will be vetted and endorsed by the NEC Sectoral Empowered Committee (SEC). Project costing Rs. 5 Crore to Rs. 15 Cr will henceforth be scrutinised and sanctioned by a Standing Finance Committee (SFC) headed by the Secretary, NEC. It was stated that the Guidelines have been framed on the framework recommended by EFC and approved by Cabinet. However, a few Members wanted some time to give their comments.

**It was agreed that 15 days would be given to the Hon'ble Members to give their remarks/ comments the Draft NEC Guidelines, which was circulated along with the agenda notes.**

<b>9. Agenda Item</b>	<b>Presentation of the transformation of the 14 Aspirational Districts/ Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (GSA-1&amp;2) in NER</b>
-----------------------	--

Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development informed that on the basis of vulnerable population of 1,000 with at least 50% SC population in non-Himalayan and mainland states and population of 500 with at least 50% SC/ST population in NER, 16,850 villages was selected for saturation with 7 identified schemes under GSA-1. Out of 16,850 villages, 33% (6,842) were selected from NER. The seven programmes for saturation are:

- i. Saubhagya Yojana (household electricity connection)
- ii. Ujala Yojana (provision of LED bulb)
- iii. Ujjwala Yojana (provision of LPG connection)
- iv. Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (opening of bank account)
- v. Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Beema Yojana (life insurance)
- vi. Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Beema Yojana (accidental insurance)
- vii. Mission Indradhanush (full immunization of children and pregnant women)

Under GSA-2, 2,728 villages from NER which have more than 500 population from 14 Aspirational Districts are being covered. Altogether, around



9,000 villages from NER have been covered under GSA. Not only 7 schemes, five more programmes have also been included in GSA-2. They are:

- i. Improving village education
- ii. Improving health facilities
- iii. Provision for skill opportunities for enrolment of students from 14 ADs on priority.
- iv. 25 pilot projects in 14 ADs-end to end cultivation during Rabi period.
- v. Provision of nutrition to operationalize POSHAN ABHIYAAN on priority.

A copy of the power-point presentation is enclosed as Annexure -7. While complimenting the State Governments for their efforts made towards saturation of the target villages he requested for their continued support and guidance for the successful limitation of this campaign which is being personally monitored by the Hon'ble Prime Minister.

It was mentioned that Ministry of DoNER has been doing the role to coordinate made progress in the 14 Aspirational districts. **The suggestion made by Secretary DoNER to provide Rs. 1 crore to each Aspirational District to enable them to make substantial progress on the various indicators was agreed by the NEC Plenary.** This fund could be *inter alia* used for translation work of Central Sector Schemes in local dialects of NER and providing technical assistance to third party evaluation of such schemes.

Under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), 1,78,184 habitations with 500 population in plain areas and 250 population in hill areas have been selected. So far, 90% of the targeted roads have been constructed. 61,000 km of road is targeted to be constructed under the scheme during 2018-

19. So far, 50,000 km of road has been constructed. For NER, 10,100 km of road has to be constructed under the scheme during 2018-19.

Under Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana - Gramin, 4,19,883 pucca houses are to be constructed in NER. He mentioned that in Assam the construction of 2.5 lakh houses was delayed by because of the preoccupation of district administration in updating the NRC. Considering the problems of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) in Nagaland, Village Development Board has been authorised to make payment for housing materials. Sikkim will have the distinction of first state in India with 100% pucca housing for its entire population if it completes 1957 pucca houses under the scheme.

<b>10. Agenda Item</b>	<b>Presentation on Strengthening Livelihood Programmes in NER</b>
------------------------	---

While making the presentation, the Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development informed that the Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana aims at uplifting the poor by enhancing sustainable livelihood opportunities through skill development. There is scope for convergence with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Generation Act (MGNREGA). Pig-shed, goat-shed can be built under MGNREGA. In Sikkim, diary-sheds/cattle-sheds are also constructed under MGNREGA. In Meghalaya, Village Employment Committee (VEC) carries out the work for vermi-compost under MGNREGA. Focus should be made to construct Rural Haat for agro-processing and marketing of agricultural products under the scheme. In respect of SHGs movement, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland need to improve their performance. It was stated that there is improved coordination with the livelihood programmes of NERCORMP and NERLP being implemented by Ministry of DONER/NEC and new project areas are being identified jointly.

<b>11. Agenda Item</b>	<b>Presentation on Doubling Farmers Income by 2020</b>
------------------------	--

The Joint Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare informed that farm income per cultivator in 2011-12 was Rs.78,264 whereas wage earning per agricultural labourer was Rs.32,311 and that a non-agricultural worker was Rs.2,46,514 respectively. Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim have incomes more than national average. However, Assam was close to the national average and Tripura had less income than the national average.

The farmers' income of Rs.96,703 in 2015-16 has to reach Rs.1,92,694 and Rs.2,71,378 in 2022-23 at 2015-16 prices and current prices respectively. To reach the target, the income has to grow at 10.4% annually. The selection of crop for cultivation has to be focussed on less area and high value-ended crops like horticulture where only 7% of area is required to produce 25% of total crops in India.

To grow income, the private investment has to be increased from 9.15% (2002 to 2012) to 12.5% (2016-17 to 2022-23). Similarly, public investment has also to be raised from 12.4% (2000-2013) to 16.8% (2016-17 to 2022-23).

He recommended the following major initiatives that can be taken by the State Governments to increase the income of the farmers in the NER:

- (i) A model Agriculture Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion & facilitation) Act, 2017 to be adopted.
- (ii) **eNAM**: a national web based online trading platform designed to transform agri-marketing and getting best prices to be operationalized.
- (iii) States may develop and upgrade the facilities of 2766 Rural Haats through MNREGA/PMSSY.

- (iv) Adoption of Model Agricultural & Livestock Contract Farming & Services (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2018.
- (v) NE States may consider procurement of paddy locally at MSP rates to cater to their local demands.
- (vi) Micro-drip irrigation-protective cultivation may be expanded.
- (vii) Model Land Leasing law may be adopted to recognize the right of the cultivator and help accessing credit, crop insurance and other inputs to improve productivity.
- (viii) Pradhan Mantri Fasal Beema Yojana (Crop Insurance Scheme) may be effectively implemented.

NER produces 5% of country's horticulture produces. However, substantial surplus (31-64%) is wasted. Adoption of professional horticulture like polyhouses, poly tunnel, mist houses, hydroponics, aeroponics, computerised micro-irrigation/fertigation, landscaping, drip irrigation for outdoor crops, water harvesting from greenhouse & terracing, mini processing and waste management techniques are required.

Community land holding and small land holdings require special policies for flow of credit and innovations in traditional agricultural practices. The total share of agriculture credit in NER for 2014-15 was 0.53%, 0.66% in 2015-16 and 0.97% in 2016-17 respectively. Hence, KCC issuance to farmers may be increased and penetration of banking services be enhanced for greater outreach.

Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland suggested reviving co-operative movement in NER for overall welfare of farmers in the region.

MoS (IC), DoNER and Vice Chairman, NEC mentioned that NERAMAC is being revived to enable marketing of agriculture products from NER. He also

said that in coordination with the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, private investment is being encouraged and some food parks have been set up. It was also mentioned that value addition and using of innovative technology would need to be encouraged. Hon'ble Members suggested that NEDFi could facilitate preparation of DPRs and access to credit especially by using the joint liability group as collateral. The suggestion made by Hon'ble CM, Tripura and others that the State's share of 10% in Centrally Sponsored Schemes, particularly in the sectors that have the potential of doubling farmers' income may be given by NEC was also endorsed.

<b>12. Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion on Water Resource management in NER</b>
------------------------	---

Joint Secretary, M/o DoNER made the presentation and mentioned that as per direction of Prime Minister, a High Level Committee (HLC) was constituted for proper management of water resources in the NER under the chairmanship of Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog. The decision of the first meeting of HLC held on November 15, 2017 recommended for establishment of **North Eastern Water Management Authority (NEWMA)** with headquarters in Arunachal Pradesh. The authority would be a basin management entity focussing on the interest of a basin as a whole, rather than interest of a particular sector or state. NEWMA will work for the economic development and prosperity of all States of the NER rather than merely flood control in Brahmaputra/Barak by considering water resources as an asset not a liability for NER. NEWMA will look at the abundant water resources in the entire NER, covering activities from power generation, irrigation, flood & erosion control, upland management, fisheries, inland waterways and tourism etc.

Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland also suggested to replicate the water-harvesting model of Mizoram to manage water resources in the region. Secretary, M/o DoNER suggested that the Chief Ministers along with the Chief Secretaries and of NER may visit some global basin management authorities where different countries are able to cooperate and optimise utilisation of water resources to understand their functioning and the sharing of costs and benefits across different countries. This would help in early operationalisation of NEWMA. Further, he recommended that fund for catchment area treatment in the upper reaches can be availed from Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA).

<b>13. Agenda Item</b>	<b>Presentation on Catchment Area Treatment in NER through afforestation etc</b>
------------------------	--

While making the presentation, the Director General of Forests, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change reported that India is committed to sequester 2.5 to 3 BT of CO<sub>2</sub> in forest by 2030. With an average annual increment of 128.33 MT CO<sub>2</sub>, the country would face a shortfall of 0.6 to 1.1 BT of CO<sub>2</sub> from its international commitment by 2030. Since NER is the richest in forest stock, it could play a major role in sequestering CO<sub>2</sub> for the country. In dense natural forests about 65% carbon is stored in soil. Qualitative improvement of existing forests would lead to more carbon stock through landscape based catchment treatment. Extending tree cover outside forests would lead to quantitative increase in direct sequestration of carbon.

Most of the rivers in India are seasonal and catchments are origin of all the rivers. This is because, precipitation received by the catchments take the path of least resistance and rush to the rivers and also carry top-soil from the

catchment. As a result, rivers are flooded during peak season with muddy water for short period of time.

The precipitation in the catchment area should be retained so that water flows under the soil for which biological and mechanical interventions are needed. This will make rivers perennial and clean. If the moisture in the catchment is retained for a longer duration, it will facilitate:

- (i) Reduction of soil erosion
- (ii) Augmentation of natural regeneration
- (iii) Reduction of vulnerability to forest fire
- (iv) Reduction of man-animal conflicts
- (v) Recharging of ground water

The above benefits would result in accelerated carbon sequestration and water security. NEC could fund a catchment treatment plant (CATP) through tree and bamboo plantation for NER. Wood is the only carbon neutral renewable resource. Hence, more wood should be grown and used. A copy of the power-point presentation is enclosed as Annexure-VI.

He stated that landscape based catchment area treatment plan is being prepared by ICFRE, Dehardun.

Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh stated that 46% of catchment area of Brahmaputra is in Arunachal Pradesh and 76% is its water-flow. Most of its biggest tributaries lie in Arunachal Pradesh. So, development of catchment area in Arunachal Pradesh is more important. Hon'ble Governor of Manipur also supplemented that forest should be planted with indigenous trees. It was informed that funds under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAFMPA) may be accessed for afforestation.

<b>14. Agenda Item</b>	<b>Presentation on Bamboo Mission in NER and Science &amp; Technology Interventions (STINER)</b>
------------------------	--

While making the presentation, the Joint Secretary, M/o DoNER mentioned that the new National Bamboo Mission has been set up focussing on full value chain with special focus on NER where 60% of the country's bamboo is grown. Out of total outlay of Rs.1290 Crore till March 2020, Rs.150-200 Crore has been allocated for NER for the year 2018-19. NEC Cane and Bamboo Development Council (NECBDC) will act as coordinating/facilitating point for the NER.

State Governments were requested to encourage non-forest plantation and plantation of bamboo in non-cultivable and other private and community land of species which are required by the industry. However, given the stock of bamboo resources much greater emphasis is being placed on processing and value addition of bamboo products. SHGs may be encouraged for both plantation & primary processing. Marketing of high value products like bamboo shoots, candy, bamboo charcoal (in fashion industry) could be enhanced. Big industries like incense sticks (large scale), fibre, construction material, bamboo engineered wood, bio-fuel etc. may also be encouraged. The JS informed about the joint venture arrangement of Numaligarh Refinery Ltd (NRL) with Chempolis of Finland and M/s Fortum 3 B.V. of Netherlands to build and operate the first of its kind Bio Refinery in India that will convert 500,000 tons of bamboo annually into ethanol, furfural, acetic acid and green power from bamboo biomass. The use of ethanol is going to be mainstreamed as part of fuel. The high volume of Bamboo required for the plant will be sourced mostly from NER states and some states have already inked MOUs with NRL. Plantation level micro processing will be required for palletisation of Bamboo as raw materials for the



Ethanol plant. Given that making round incense sticks implies a lot of wastage of bamboo, this provides an opportunity to build a comprehensive bamboo value chain around this. Under the restructured National Bamboo Mission, which focuses on Bamboo value chain development, sanctions for states are being issued. State Governments were requested to reorient their State Bamboo Missions so as to promote end to end value chain development for bamboo starting from scientific and planned plantation, high tech nurseries, micro processing, bamboo waste optimisation into handicrafts, agarbattis, and other high end products like bamboo shoots, bamboo charcoal, bio-medicines et al. He also suggested that STINER scheme may be leveraged for the bamboo industry. Collaborations with CSIR, ICAR, and IITs should be a priority for bamboo industry.

Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh suggested setting up the headquarters of National Bamboo Mission in NER as the product is available in the NER. Hon'ble CM Tripura suggested levying of heavy import duties on incense sticks so as to encourage local producers.

<b>15. Agenda Item</b>	<b>Presentation on road connectivity in the North Eastern Region</b>
------------------------	--

The Managing Director, National Highway Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (NHIDCL) made a presentation on road connectivity in the NER. He mentioned that the total length of the National Highway in the NER is 13,679 KM out of which 8,170 KM is with the State CPWD, 864 Km with NHAI, 2,645 KM with the NHIDCL (which was set up in 2014), 1,251 Km with the BRO and 749 Km is with the MoRTH (PIU). He highlighted some basic information on the length of roads state wise and also the National Highway development programmes like the SARDP-NE (Phase A), Arunachal Package,

NHFP-EW Corridor, Bharatmala and CRF. Some of the completed projects like the Dhol-Sadia bridge in Assam, 2-laning of the Shillong-Nongstoin were also mentioned apart from on-going projects like the Bridges across Dibang and Lohit river systems in the State of Arunachal Pradesh, widening of existing road to 2 lane NH standards along with Improvement and Re alignment from Nechipu to Hoj (NH-229) in the State of Arunachal Pradesh.

During the presentation, issues pending with the States were also mentioned such as:

- (i) non-availability of land for the project 2 laning of NH 229 from Potin to Pangin section (407Km) – segment of Trans Arunachal Highway in the State of Arunachal Pradesh;
- (ii) Forest Clearance of the project for widening of existing road to 2 lane NH standards along with Improvement and Re alignment from Nechipu to Hoj (NH-229) in the State of Arunachal was obtained in 2012. However, for a small re-alignment section near Khupi (3.82Km) which is falling under Reserve Forest Area, the clearance is still awaited. This section has become a hurdle in completion of the project. The matter has also been taken up at the highest level with the State Government. However, the matter has not been resolved till date;
- (iii) Incomplete land requisition and pending forest clearance for the project for widening to 2 lane with PS i/c geometric improvement from Km 397.00 to Km 422.00 on Churaibari – Agartala section of NH 44 on EPC Mode in the State of Tripura;
- (iv) The following six works delayed due to delay in land acquisition, utility shifting and removal of encroachment by the State Government:

- Construction of 2 lane highway with paved shoulder between Km. 603/0 to 637/0 of NH-37 (bypasses of Mohanbari, Chabua and other village) under SARDP-NE Phase –‘A’
  - Construction of 2 lane with paved shoulder of Makum Bypass under SARDP-NE Phase –‘A’
  - Construction of 2 lane with paved shoulders of NH-37 from end of ROB at Makum to NH-52 near Rupai under SARDP-NE Phase –‘A’
  - Construction of Slichar Bypass on NH-53 under SARDP-NE Phase –‘A’
  - 2-laning of Lumding-Diphu-Manza Road, Haflong-Jatinga Road, Baska-Barama Road, Morigaon – Jagiroad, Kokrajhar-Karigaon Road and Udalguri-Rowta Road under SARDP-NE Phase –‘A’
  - 2 laning from Kanubari to start of Bogibeel bridge approaches of NH-52B (Extn) under SARDP-NE Phase –‘A’
- (v) Following three works delayed due to delay in approval of drawings and design from Railways and CRS approval for which pursuance of State Government is required:
- 2 laning from Kanubari to start of Bogibeel bridge approaches of NH-52B (Extn).
  - Construction of new 2 lane road with paved shoulders of Dhaleshwari Bypass from Km. 0.00 to km. 3.500 of NH-154
  - Construction of new 2 lane with paved shoulder of Katlicherra Bypass from Km. 47.00 to Km. 52.00 of NH-154
- (vi) Consultancy Work for preparation of DPR for 2 lanes with paved shoulder from Kohima to Nagaland/ Manipur Border wherein the DPR work awarded more than 2 years back. Comments of State Government on the alignment proposal is still awaited.

- (vii) For the project of construction of Sawombung Bridge on NH-150, the work was awarded on 01.06.2015 with completion period of 2 years. However, the progress of the work is still 40% after lapse of three years.

The MD, NHIDCL mentioned that:

- Land acquisition are to be done as per NH Act 1956 and compensation to be calculated as RFCTLARR Act 2013,
- Administrative charges of state government for Land Acquisition is to be restricted to 2.5%,
- All notification for land acquisition is being processed online through Bhoomirashi portal from 01.04.2018.

He also pointed out issues relating to tolling along the NH and stated that during the last four years around 4,243 km of road length was constructed under various programmes but none of these roads are tolled. As per the Ministry of Road Transport's extant policy project costing more than Rs. 100 Cr needs to be tolled. The need to provide essential facilities like toilets, water drinking, petrol pumps etc. were also discussed. At the same time, the issue of maintenance of such facilities like toilets which is badly required was stressed upon.

Chief Minister, Tripura mentioned about the need to have a coordination Committee with the field level officers at NEC Secretariat. Chief Minister, Arunachal Pradesh mentioned about the need to sanction left out projects of the road proposal of Lanpu-Mamao-Changlang and Longding-Tisa-Khongsa on an urgent basis. Regarding the portion at Potin Pangin in the Trans Arunachal Highway, it was requested that the tendering work should start on an

urgent basis. He also raised the issue of maintenance of roads in the State in view of the heavy rainfall and landslides are frequent occurrence.

<b>16. Agenda Item</b>	<b>Presentation on Ayushman Bharat</b>
------------------------	--

The Additional Secretary & MD (National Health Mission), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare made a presentation on Ayushman Bharat. He mentioned that in this year's GoI's budget, an announcement was made for launching of a comprehensive primary health care programme through the health and wellness centres and national health protection mission. The NHPC provides a coverage of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year for poor disadvantage families. It is an entitlement based mission. He mentioned that less than 10% of the primary care are being provided by the SC, PHC and CHC in relation to non-MCH care. With the new programme, it aims at bridging the gap and reduces out of pocket expenditure. He also mentioned about the types of facilities to be operationalized by March, 2019 in the NE States wherein interim targets by 15.08.2018 are also fixed.

The presentation also provides information on the actions to be taken up by the States like Creation strong state team for roll out of Comprehensive Primary Health Care Services through Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs), creation of the provision for Public Health cadre for MLHPs, mobilization of MPLAD/MLALAD/PRI funds for supporting infrastructure strengthening of HWCs, strengthen medicines and diagnostic procurement and supply systems upto HWCs, etc.

On the NHPM, he mentioned that it will provide a coverage of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year, 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable families were identified based on SECC deprivations for rural and occupational categories for urban. The programme is entitlement based mission with national portability. The indicative packages for now is for 1350 treatments provided by National Health

Agency (NHA). Under this Mission, all States have signed MoU with the GoI. However, Cabinet approval is pending in case of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Sikkim. 3 States have informed that the implementation would be in insurance mode (Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland)

A web-based application for Hospitals to apply for empanelment under Ayushman Bharat has been launched. Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura have initiated empanelment through the application. State level technical person have been deputed in these States. It is expected that Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim would join soon.

During the presentation, it was requested that States need to resolve ending decisions on priority. Tendering for Insurance Company or Implementation Support Agency as required needs to be taken on priority, hospital empanelment to be completed by July, 2018, State Health Agency to be set-up and appropriate staffing at State and district be made. In context of request of NE States to provide transport allowance to beneficiaries availing services outside home State, a letter was sent from the MoH&FW to Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region to create a fund for this purpose. The launch of the AB-NHPM would be on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2018.

Regarding the poor infrastructure at the PHCs, Secretary, DoNER mentioned that under NESIDS, there is a provision for construction of doctors' quarters.

The Hon'ble Governor of Manipur raised the issue of drugs from the neighbouring countries which need urgent and adequate attention of the authorities concerned.

The Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh referred to the immunization programme under which there was some misinformation about safety etc and that the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Arunachal Pradesh took the child

and demonstrated that immunization is safe. By this act, the message spread about the safety of immunization.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura also raised the issue of drug menace and requested for action by the concerned authorities.

<b>17. Agenda Item</b>	<b>Presentation on on the implementation of Poshan Abhiyan</b>
------------------------	--

The Joint Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development made a presentation on the implementation of Poshan Abhiyan and its roll out in the NE States. He mentioned that Poshan Abhiyan was launched by the Prime Minister Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment from Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan on the 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 with the basic intention of reducing stunting from 38.4% to 25% by 2022. With an overall budget of ₹ 9,046 crore, the programme through use of technology, a targeted approach and Convergence strives to reduce the level of stunting, under-nutrition, anaemia and low birth weight in children, as also, focus on adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers, thus holistically addressing malnutrition. The programme aims to ensure service delivery and interventions by use of technology, through convergence and lays-down specific targets to be achieved across different monitoring parameters over the next few years. To ensure a holistic approach, all 36 States/Uts and districts will be covered in a phased manner.

The roll-out of the programme in the NE states was highlighted. A total of Rs. 38.14 crore was released during FY 2018-18 and Rs. 82.62 crore was released during FY 2018-19. The presentation also highlighted some key issues which are pending for completion. In view of the pending issues with the States, it was requested that the Chief Ministers of the NE may review the status on a monthly basis.

Regarding the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY), he mentioned that the progress is not going well as expected and the States were urged to take up speedier implementation of the Scheme.

<b>18. Agenda Item</b>	<b>Presentation on the security situation in the North Eastern Region</b>
------------------------	---

The Joint Secretary (NE), Ministry of Home Affairs made a presentation before the Members of the NEC. He indicated that as mentioned by the Hon'ble Home Minister in his inaugural address, there has been a marked improvement in the security situation in the NER as compared to the period of late 1990's and early 2000's. He briefly highlighted that the NER constituted about 7.9% of the country's geographical area with 3.8% of population and has an international boundary of 5484 KM of international border. There are more than 200 ethnic groups in the NER having distinct languages, dialects and socio-cultural identity.

He mentioned that there is a reduction in insurgency incidents with reduction in the casualties of civilians and security forces. During his presentation, he highlighted the State-wise number of incidents, extremist killed, surrendered and arrested, casualties of security forces and civilians etc in the last four years. He specified various efforts of the Government in dealing with various outfits of the NER by indicating state specific groups. Through various data, he indicated that there has been a marked improvement in the security situations. He detailed various security situations in each of the eight States. The various sustained counter insurgency operations against various group of militants were also discussed.

The Joint Secretary, Home Ministry also briefly mentioned about the NRC in Assam wherein he stated that the complete draft would be published by



30.07.2018 and adequate security measures are being undertaken. Claims and objections would be taken up.

He highlighted the comprehensive review of the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme and the Surrender-cum-rehabilitation policy of the Ministry which became effective from April, 2018. He also touched upon bilateral issues with Bangladesh and Myanmar. And the initiative taken by the Government at various levels on boundary and other security related issues.

Secretary, NEC mentioned that for security related matters, NEC will be another forum for discussing the various issues along with the Members of the NEC.

<b>19.</b>	<b>Miscellaneous Item with the permission of Chairman, NEC</b>
------------	--

Several Hon'ble Members had raised the issue of the 197 new projects sanctioned by NEC after March, 2017, especially in the last quarter of 2017-18, especially in the last quarter, which has been kept in abeyance till the finalisation of the Revised Guidelines of NEC and review of the projects by the mechanism suggested therein. Some of the states expressed their concern that a few projects are already under implementation.

Secretary, Ministry of DoNER and ex-officio Member, NEC clarified that NEC had sanctioned new projects during 2017-18, which had led to the situation that the liabilities exceeded the available resources with NEC, keeping in view the committed liabilities of various on-going schemes. Further, some of the projects sanctioned were not included in the sectors identified for NEC as approved by the Cabinet. Also while the retention of projects during 2017-18

was as per the normative allocation decided in the 66<sup>th</sup> Plenary, the releases to the states were not commensurate with the normative share. Therefore, a review of projects became necessary.

He also mentioned that in the 66<sup>th</sup> NEC Plenary meeting held in May, 2017, it was informed that NEC schemes would henceforth be Central Sector schemes as against the block grant. In December, 2017 the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC), recommended a total of Rs. 4500 crores for continuation of on-going schemes and new projects of NEC including Rs. 1000 crores for new roads under North East Road Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS). The EFC *inter alia*, observed that NEC should first give priority to liquidate its outstanding committed liabilities wherever feasible. Non-feasible projects shall be dropped. EFC took the view that depending upon the availability of resources, additional funds for NEC projects can be made available after a review subject to the NEC having substantially liquidated its outstanding liabilities and bringing down the unspent balances lying with the States. EFC had also recommended that NEC should exercise powers of sanctioning projects upto Rs. 15 crores developing a Standing Finance Committee (SFC) like mechanism so that views of the concerned Ministries and their on-going schemes are taken into consideration while sanctioning new projects. It was further recommended by EFC that NEC may take up bigger projects of not less than Rs. 20 crores. The same view was earlier expressed by the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Demand for Grants. The EFC's recommendations were approved by the competent authority i.e Cabinet in its meeting on 28.03.2018.

It was further stated that NEC had sanctioned a large number of projects between December 2017 and March, 2018 and created liabilities of Rs. 420 crores (approx). If the projects sanctioned between 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2018 are considered, the total liabilities created come to Rs. 870 crores

(approx). The sanctions issued in 2017-18 were mostly in the construction related sectors including flood control, etc. which was not included in the focus areas as approved by the Cabinet. Further, most of the sanctions pertained to three states – Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur. It was in this perspective that NEC issued orders to keep all such schemes on hold till the operational guidelines are finalised and a view is taken at the competent level.

The following proposals for dealing with the projects sanctioned in 2017-18 were put forth before the NEC Plenary.

- a. The projects in sectors not covered in the new schemes of the NEC, but which are essential and where substantial work has already been done may be allowed to continue as a one-time exception, with the condition that the DPRs would be vetted by the concerned line Ministries;
- b. Total financial size of the projects- ongoing and new may be restricted to the envelope of Rs. 4500 crores. In case savings are anticipated under NERSDS, some amount from NERSDS may be re-appropriated to Schemes of the NEC ;
- c. Projects where Rs. 10 lakhs were released as part of first instalment and where tenders have not been floated even after the stipulated time may be withdrawn;
- d. States may be urged to fore-close ongoing projects which are not feasible so that savings from these liabilities can be utilized for other projects;
- e. After the above steps are taken, in the event of anticipated shortage, Ministry of Finance will be approached to seek additional funds this year.
- f. States which could not get funds as per their normative allocation in 2017-18, would be entitled to proportionately higher funds.

- g. Project Identification Committee for the States will start meeting as soon as the Revised Guidelines are approved.

It was suggested that all new projects will be reviewed by the Project Identification Committee. There was broad consensus that a review should be undertaken up by the Project Identification Committee (PIC) consisting of the Secretary, DoNER, Chief Secretary of the concerned States and Secretary, NEC. After the review, approval of the Competent Authority, wherever necessary, maybe obtained. Hon'ble Chairman, NEC expressed that he may be kept apprised of the outcome of review of these projects.

<b>20. Agenda Item</b>	<b>Hon'ble Chairman's Valedictory Address</b>
------------------------	---

The Hon'ble Home Minister and Chairman NEC stated that during the last two days, various developmental issues and security related issues of the NER were discussed. He remarked that various valuable suggestions were given by the Members of NEC. He stressed that there should be a joint effort to generate employment and income so that insurgency related issues can be tackled effectively.

He stated that all the three sectors of economy - agriculture, industry and services - need to be given due attention. Referring to the Prime Minister's resolve of doubling the farmers income by 2022, he stressed on the need for synergy between efforts of all the State Governments and the Ministry of Agriculture. Placing emphasis on the production, processing, marketing and export of "low volume and high value crops" , he suggested that in coordination with the Ministry of Railways, provision of refrigerated rail wagons in superfast trains through which perishable food items can be made available to other major cities of the country may be enhanced. To resolve the

issue of marketing, he said that NERAMAC should be revived and if required NEC can provide the funding in part so that remunerative income is provided to the farmers and adequate employment is generated. NERCORMP and other livelihood programmes need to be encouraged for generating employment and income, as the SHGs can play a major role as is evident from success stories across the country.

He mentioned that the NER has not been able to attract adequate investment and hence there is a need for proper assessment of the reasons and solutions brought out to resolve the issue. He requested the Chief Ministers of the States to give more importance to skill development. He suggested that NEC can pursue setting up a Regional Institute for Skill Development.

The Hon'ble Chairman indicated that the action taken report on the NITI Forum for North East can be discussed in a special session of the NEC sometime in October, 2018. He also highlighted that the eight States of the NER have vast potential for development. What is required is to identify State specific areas to realise this potential and to frame plans with strategies to implement. He referred to the bamboo processing potential, particularly, in Nagaland and suggested that the Secretary, DoNER and the Secretary, NEC should identify strategies to make it operational. He also recalled the discussions on the transformation of the 14 Aspirational Districts and need for strategy and the need to promote, and encourage more start-ups. Due to the geographical proximity to the ASEAN countries with the NER, a road map under the Act East Policy with specific time-frame could also be formulated by NEC.

With the approval of the Cabinet, the new role to be played by the NEC in the areas of Inter-State and Centre-State issues and conflict resolution of the NE States is a crucial decision. He suggested that the Secretary, DoNER and

Secretary, NEC should work and identify inter-state issues which could be discussed. Through mutual dialogue issues can be resolved and if required the NEC Plenary can discuss and decisions can be arrived at.

The Hon'ble Home Minister stressed on completing the long pending projects sanctioned by the NEC with definite time frame and to ensure total transparency, accountability and stoppage of leakages in the system. He also urged to make the NEC as the most credible organisation for the people of the North East.

He added that in the case of the progress of the implementation of the PMGSY, it appears that the targets would be met. The development of roads in the NER has been taken up in a big way and news projects would be taken up. He also referred to the discussions on land acquisition and forest clearance which have resulted in delays for some infrastructure projects and urged the Chief Ministers of the NE to review all such projects. He said that schemes like Ayushman Bharat, Poshan Abhiyan, Pradhan Mantri Mantri Bandhan Yojana and other Central Government Schemes would also require the cooperation of all the State Governments so that these are implemented successfully.

Hon'ble Home Minister also stressed on the importance of "i-ways" – the area of information technology. There is a need to formulate new ways to effectively use information technology for the Region. The youth of the Region are working in the BPO sector in other parts of the country. With the development of broadband technology in the NER, it would create ample employment opportunities within the Region. He advised that the NEC should prepare a roadmap to improve broadband technology in the Region.

The Hon'ble Chairman also referred to the Prime Minister's vision of a 'new India' by 2022 and mentioned that the road to a 'new India' should be laid through the 'new North East' and the NEC should keep this aspect in mind.

Lastly, he thanked all the Members of the NEC and the other participants who have actively contributed during the Plenary and urged the NEC to become a credible organisation for the people of the Region. He expressed hope that the implementation of decisions would be ensured under the guidance and directions of the Vice Chairman and Hon'ble MoS (I/C), Ministry of DONER.

# **PART – B**

**Actionable points of the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of the North  
Eastern Council**



## PART – B

### Actionable points culled out from the written speeches of the Members during the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of the North Eastern Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 at the State Convention Centre, Shillong

#### Sector: Agriculture & Allied

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
Pg. 10	<b>Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh</b>	<p>Agriculture and allied sector has a huge potential in Arunachal Pradesh as the State is blessed with vast land territory. We are the largest producer of Kiwi in India, and we also produce cash crops like cardamom, ginger, cinnamon, apple, blueberries in large quantity.</p> <p>My State Government has made an ambitious plan to cover 7 lakh hectares land with micro irrigation under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sichai Yojana (PMKSY). I request Government of India to approve the proposal and provide necessary funds for implementation of the program.</p>
Pg. 10	<b>Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh</b>	<p>NEC has taken an important initiative known as North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project (NERCORMP) which is a jointly funded project of NEC, Ministry of DoNER and International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD). This project focuses on rural livelihood sector by promoting agriculture, horticulture and self employment in the region. I would urge NEC to take up major projects under NERCORMP to bring visible changes in the region. I would also urge DoNER ministry to expand the outreach of NERCORMP in all border blocks bordering China in Arunachal Pradesh.</p>
Page 3	<b>Prof. Jagdish Mukhi, Hon'ble Governor of Assam</b>	<p>Economy of Assam is mainly agro-based. To give emphasis to agricultural development crops with multi-cropping system is introduced in the state. Along with this, extension of research activities and skill upgradation of farmers may be taken up to double the income of farmers, NEC may provide necessary support in this area to achieve our Prime Minister's mission of doubling farmers' income by 2022.</p>
Pg. 6 & 7	<b>Dr. Najma Heptulla,</b>	<p>Sir, in the 66<sup>th</sup> Plenary of NEC, I had raised the issue of</p>

<b>Para &amp; Page Number of the Speech</b>	<b>Points raised by</b>	<b>Actionable Points</b>
<b>[1]</b>	<b>[2]</b>	<b>[3]</b>
	<b>Hon'ble Governor of Manipur</b>	mass felling of the trees and alarming depletion of forest cover in the North East and had suggested that NEC could lead in the restoration of the greenery through community based sustainable resource based programme and frame a separate afforestation policy/ programme for the NE States to arrest further deterioration on a 'mission mode'. With the alarming climate change, global warming and warning on severe water scarcity by 2030 as per the NITI Ayog's report, there is need to give serious attention towards increasing forest cover and water conservation by harvesting maximum water during rainy season. As per the report of Forest Survey of India 2017, there has been a net increase of 263 sq km in the State of Manipur and 567 sq km in Assam due to conservation and plantation activities as well as regrowth in shifting cultivation areas. However, much more needs to be done, since forest cover is depleting in rest of the remaining NE States, as per the report. Let us commit to plant a tree every year and nurture it to make NE states the greenery region of India.
<b>Para 4</b>	<b>Shri Ganga Prasad, Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya</b>	There are a number of agricultural products in which the State has a distinct advantage and these include the Lakadong turmeric, black pepper, ginger, honey, horticultural and floriculture products as well as fruits like pineapples, oranges, jackfruit, etc. The setting up of export-related infrastructure such as centre for packaging, cold storage facilities, food processing units, development of rural markets, etc in different locations of the State of Meghalaya to boost export of these products to Bangladesh and neighbouring countries is an important element of the Act East Policy. Further, the setting up of a phyto-certification agency in the State will also help boost the export of our organic products. The NEC as well as the Government of India is requested to lend its support and assistance on this matter.
<b>Para 8</b>	<b>Shri Ganga Prasad, Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya</b>	Meghalaya shares an international boundary of 443 Kms with Bangladesh in the South. Therefore, improvement and upgradation of the existing border roads is essential for trade. The State of Meghalaya had

<b>Para &amp; Page Number of the Speech</b>	<b>Points raised by</b>	<b>Actionable Points</b>
<b>[1]</b>	<b>[2]</b>	<b>[3]</b>
		submitted to NEC the list of 10 roads leading to international border during 2016-17 for taking up under the scheme “ <i>North East Roads Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS)</i> ”. The selected roads are of economic importance and there is an urgent need to improve and upgrade these roads so that they can cater to the heavy traffic density. NEC is, therefore, requested to consider the development of these roads positively.
<b>Para 10</b>	<b>Shri Ganga Prasad, Hon’ble Governor of Meghalaya</b>	Meghalaya has a very high percentage of forest cover and almost all the developmental activities in the State require clearances under the Forest Conservation Act and thereby causing undue delay in the implementation of projects whose sites pass through forest covered areas. The State Government, on a number of occasions, has taken up with the Ministry of Forest, Environment & Climate Change to consider granting States with very high forest cover, the same power as delegated to the Left Wing Extremism affected States to ensure speedy implementation of projects & programmes. Kind intervention of the Ministry of Home Affairs and the NEC on the matter is sought.
<b>Para 11</b>	<b>Shri Ganga Prasad, Hon’ble Governor of Meghalaya</b>	The NEC, as a Regional Planning Body, has a role to play in preserving the biodiversity / bio-resources of the North Eastern region as the region is one of the biodiversity hotspots in the world. Meghalaya has numerous varieties of orchid and medicinal plants, home to some of the rare varieties of banana, citrus plants, and a storehouse of diverse germplasm reserves which can be a rich resource for crop and plant improvement programmes. Meghalaya is also the only State in the whole of India where the rare pitcher plant grows in the wild. The Bio-resources Development Centre at Shillong needs to be strengthened and expanded to provide application based research for production of quality planting materials. This will go a long way in improving the productivity of various crops. Necessary financial and technical assistance from the NEC is required in this front.
<b>Pg. 2 &amp; 3</b>	<b>Shri P.B. Acharya, Hon’ble Governor of</b>	Certified organic products fetch higher income for the producers. There is therefore the need for NEC to come

<b>Para &amp; Page Number of the Speech</b>	<b>Points raised by</b>	<b>Actionable Points</b>
<b>[1]</b>	<b>[2]</b>	<b>[3]</b>
	<b>Nagaland</b>	forward to help the states in getting their food products certified as organic and brand building in value chain mode linking producers and consumers.
<b>Pg. 3</b>	<b>Shri P.B. Acharya, Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland</b>	With the immense potential for horticulture crops, besides processing and packaging, for systematic development of horticulture in the region, it is felt that Central Institute of Horticulture, Dimapur should be strengthened and upgraded to full fledged regional institute for Horticulture.
<b>Pg. 2 &amp; 3</b>	<b>Shri Shrinivas Patil, Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim</b>	Sikkim has made significant progress in various sectors. The State has been declared a fully organic State by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in January, 2016. The required technology, storage, cold chains and marketing are still posing to be major bottlenecks for the expansion of this sector. Therefore, since Sikkim has been the leader in organic farming, I request the Government of India, the Ministry of Home Affairs and NEC, to fund some of the areas in organic farming in the State especially in infrastructural front.
<b>Para 11 Pg. 3 &amp; 4</b>	<b>Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh</b>	Development of Agriculture and its allied sectors is another area where our government has laid much emphasis. The vision of our Hon'ble Prime Minister for doubling farmers' income by 2022 has also inspired us since most of our people live in rural areas and they are dependent primarily on agriculture for their livelihood. Last year, we had conducted a Dream Change Arunachal Conclave 2027 and this year we organized State Conclave on Prospective Planning for Resurgent Agriculture. Both the conclaves witnessed more than 1000 visitors with speakers ranging from Government of India/State Governments, scientific institutions, Academics, private entrepreneurs and progressive farmers. Lot of important suggestions emerged from the conclaves which have been introduced in our state budget 2018-19.
<b>Para 12 Pg. 4</b>	<b>Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh</b>	It emerged during the conclave to focus on state specific crops and strengthening marketing infrastructure in the State. It also came out during the conclave that Arunachal Pradesh has about 25 lakh hectares of cultivable land out of which 7 lakh hectares are fit for wet rice cultivation through flood irrigation and 18 lakh hectares through micro irrigation. As of

<b>Para &amp; Page Number of the Speech</b>	<b>Points raised by</b>	<b>Actionable Points</b>
<b>[1]</b>	<b>[2]</b>	<b>[3]</b>
		now only 3.5 lakh hectares are under cultivation of which 52,000 hectares are under irrigation coverage. We plan to bring 7 lakh hectares of more land under micro irrigation in near future with an estimated cost of Rs. 17,712 crore under PMKSY. In this regard, we solicit all possible help from the Ministry of DoNER and North Eastern Council. I also request north Eastern Council to establish a Regional research Center Institute for Agriculture and Allied Sector in Arunachal Pradesh.
<b>Para 14 Pg. 4</b>	<b>Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh</b>	I would also request Ministry of DoNER and NEC to provide us technical support in establishing forward and backward linkages in Agriculture and Horticulture sector which includes Cold chain processing units, Agriculture Mandis, IT Support to implement e-NAM and connect us with potential markets
<b>Pg. 4 &amp; 5</b>	<b>Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam</b>	We have put our efforts to provide soil health cards to farmers in a mission mode. The works of sample collection, testing, analysis of soil samples, printing of cards have already been completed for the first cycle. The distribution of cards is going on and will be completed by July, 2018. So far over ten lakhs farmers have been provided with soil health cards. Meanwhile, works for second cycle has also been started and distribution of cards will be completed by March 2019. Water being an important input in farming, I would like to suggest that we should take up scheme to inform farmers about health of water as desired by Hon'ble Prime Minister.
<b>Pg. 5</b>	<b>Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam</b>	Hon'ble Prime Minister envisions the entire North-East to be a hub of organic farming. Accordingly, we have committed ourselves to promote organic farming in a big way. However, this region faces acute shortage of organic certification. I propose that NEC can form an organic certification agency for the whole region. NEC should also consider setting up of North-East Organic Agriculture University. Government of Assam is ready to provide land for this University.
<b>Pg. 7</b>	<b>Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam</b>	I am happy to inform you that Assam is promoting livelihood amongst self help groups through Assam State Rural Livelihood Mission. I request NEC to include districts of Assam in any new initiative in livelihood

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		promotion.
	<b>Shri N Biren Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur</b>	Sir, the North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Society implemented in Ukhrul, Senapati, Churachandpur and Chandel districts are doing well in improving livelihoods for people of those areas and has transformed the lives of the rural women of villages covered under the project. Based on the success of this project, my State has requested for expansion of project to Tamenglong, Imphal East, Jiribam districts for upliftment of the poor and weaker section of our Society under Phase-IV. I appeal for clearance of this project early. This was also discussed in the last plenary meeting.
<b>Pg. 23</b>	<b>Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland</b>	Along with restructuring the flow of development funds presently available under the State budget for agriculture, special funds will be needed to set up the Integrated Intensive Inclusive Agricultural Clusters (IIIACs). The IIIACs will encourage optimization of traditional agricultural crops utilizing technical inputs and integrating with departmental activities. Clusters have been tried across the world. Examples include cut-flower clusters in Kenya, grape clusters in Maharashtra, and livestock clusters in China.
<b>Pg. 24</b>	<b>Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland</b>	The State has a comparative advantage for the development and promotion of organic cultivation. However it is observed that producers face hurdles in obtaining certification for which this forum must provide the technical expertise as well as sufficient hand holding to get products certified as organic.
<b>Para 6 (vii) Pg. 6</b>	<b>Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura</b>	(vi) Doubling Farmer's Income by 2022 Government of Tripura is committed to attaining Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of Doubling Farmer's income by the year 2022. I <b>welcome the landmark decision</b> taken by the Union Cabinet this week to <b>raise the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs)</b> of various crops to ensure 50% of returns to the farmers over costs for their produce. We have a <b>four-pronged strategy</b> to achieve this goal in line with the vision of the Central Government.

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Reducing input costs</b> – Through establishing <b>Krishak Bandhu Kendras in each sub-division</b>, dissemination of farming equipment and ensuring the use of scientific techniques for farming, we aim to reduce the input costs for our farmers.</li> <li>○ <b>Ensure minimal losses for farmers</b> – Our Government has decided to bear the cost of premium for providing crop <b>insurance all the farmers who are in High-Risk Zone</b> (covering a total of 21.5 thousand hectare area in the state). Moreover, we are also promoting means to ensure 100% penetration of PM Fasal Bima Yojana among small and marginal farmers to minimize their losses.</li> <li>○ <b>Ensure proper prices for the produce</b> – The State Budget announced that our Government will come out with <b>Horticulture Vision</b> document. We have taken numerous measures for the promotion of pineapple cultivation including the export of pineapples across the world. The effects are for all to see how the prices of our <b>Queen Pineapple</b>, the recently declared State Fruit are yielding more than <b>200% returns for our farmers</b>. Steps are being taken to ensure that our farmers are connected with the <b>e-NAM network</b>.</li> <li>○ <b>Create more avenues for income generation</b> – Our Government is taking holistic measures to promote <b>bamboo plantation</b> in the state. Despite the immense potential, rubber cultivation has not yet achieved its optimum potential in the state due to various restrictions, especially in the Non-Forest Areas. In line with the steps taken by Centre and various State Governments, we shall ensure parity in rules for effectively increasing the income of the farmers. We are also taking active steps to promote animal husbandry, bee-keeping and sericulture activities to boost the incomes of the farmers.</li> </ul> <p>NEC can play an instrumental role in doubling the farmers' income by becoming a <b>Nodal Centre for sharing of Best Practices of Farming</b> among the North Eastern States. NEC can identify these best practices</p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<p>and can arrange for regular visits of farmers to each of these states to ensure that best practices are shared across the North Eastern states.</p> <p>I see how my dear friend Conrad Sangma is promoting Jackfruit in Meghalaya; Pema Khandu ji's Arunachal Pradesh is promoting its Kiwi fruits; Assam is famous for its tea the world over. After years of indifference, even Tripura farmers are now getting proactive Government support for cultivation and marketing of pineapples, tea, bamboo etc. Can NEC become a <b>Centre for Marketing of North-Eastern Agricultural Products</b> across the world? This shall not only lead to the pooling of resources and expertise but can also ensure that we all move together to ensure prosperity for our <b>Annadatas</b>.</p>



## Sector: Power

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
Pg. 3 & 4	Shri P.B. Acharya, Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland	Power is critical for industrialisation and technological advancements. Therefore the power needs of the North East States should be seriously examined and fulfilled. Nagaland is facing serious power deficit, the State generates only 26 MW against the peak requirement of 115 MW. In order to overcome this acute shortage, the State has taken up various initiatives such as 186 MW Dikhu hydro project, 30 MW Tizu and 36 MW Zungki projects. Further, on a pilot basis, the State has introduced Smart Metering and Pre-paid meters in certain localities for improving efficiency and reducing losses. In this, to enable coverage of the entire State, the support of NEC is anticipated
Pg. 3 & 4	Shri Sarbanananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam	Another sector which has huge potential in our state is the Hydro Power Sector. Our state has a potential to generate 50,000MW of electricity which has not been tapped judiciously. The State government has now decided to firmly unleash the huge potential. Out of 151 hydro power projects leased, 15 have already been terminated. Out of the remaining 136 alive projects, 38 projects are below 25 MW and rest 98 projects to PSUs or Government undertakings wherever feasible as per mutual terms and conditions.
Pg. 3 & 4	Shri Sarbanananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam	North-East is the store house of water resource in the country. Proper and judicious harnessing of this resource to the optimum will surely contribute to the national GDP growth. Since socio-economic development of the region totally depends on proper management of the Brahmaputra and Barak basins, it is necessary to set up an effective planning and management authority which would also help in solving flood and erosion problem.
Para 10 Pg. 5	Shri Conrad K Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya	Connectivity is the most important key to development of a region; be it <b>road, rail, waterways, air</b> , power or <b>telecommunication</b> . Connectivity helps in the overall economic development and social integration of the region. The present status of telecommunication in the region requires upgradation to ensure a faster and more reliable connectivity with a larger area of

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		coverage. I urge upon the Government of India to provide special attention to this matter and to put in place schemes to improve internet connectivity in the region.
Para 10 Pg. 5	Shri Conrad K Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya	Connectivity is the most important key to development of a region; be it road, rail, waterways, air, <b>power</b> or telecommunication. Connectivity helps in the overall economic development and social integration of the region. The present status of telecommunication in the region requires upgradation to ensure a faster and more reliable connectivity with a larger area of coverage. I urge upon the Government of India to provide special attention to this matter and to put in place schemes to improve internet connectivity In the region.

## Sector: Irrigation, Flood Control & WSM

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
Page 4	Dr. Najma Heptulla, Hon'ble Governor of Manipur	<p>I am informed that Expenditure Finance Committee has identified areas/sectors for NEC funding and that all ongoing projects are to be completed by 2020. Sports and <b>water resources sector</b> are not featuring in the identified areas. These two areas also are not covered under North Eastern Infrastructure Development Scheme of Ministry of DoNER. I am of the opinion that these two sectors being the thrust areas of our government for providing safe drinking water supply(pipe) to every household and the gap of funding that exists and anti-erosion scheme as preventive measure to mitigate erosion during rainy season at critical sections along riverside/stream side, habitations in low lying areas should continue to be funded under NEC. There is no new scheme being taken up by the Central Ministry to address this problem of NE States.</p> <p>I, therefore, appeal to the Chairman through this August House to take up the matter for continuation/inclusion of Sports and <b>Water Resources sector for Water Supply and Anti-erosion scheme under NEC funding.</b></p>
Pg. 3	Shri P.B. Acharya, Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland	<p>Power is critical for industrialisation and technological advancements. Therefore the power needs of the North East States should be seriously examined and fulfilled. Nagaland is facing serious power deficit, the State generates only 26 MW against the peak requirement of 115 MW. In order to overcome this acute shortage, the State has taken up various initiatives such as 186 MW Dikhu hydro project, 30 MW Tizu and 36 MW Zungki projects. Further, on a pilot basis, the State has introduced Smart Metering and Pre-paid meters in certain localities for improving efficiency and reducing losses. In this, to enable coverage of the entire State, the support of NEC is anticipated.</p>
Pg. 3 & 4	Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam	<p>Respected Chairman, flood and erosion problem of Assam is probably the most acute in the country. The severity of flood and erosion problem in the</p>

		Brahmaputra and Barak valleys has been accentuated by excessive silt flowing with water in tributaries of these two rivers. We need to address the problem in holistic manner. Last year, Assam witnessed devastating floods. After visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister, a Committee was set up under the chairmanship of Shri Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chancellor, NITI Aayog to recommend comprehensive measures to address this problem
Para 4 Pg. 5	Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya	The year 2022 is an important year for Meghalaya and the country as a whole since the State will celebrate 50 <sup>th</sup> year of statehood and India will also celebrate it's 75 <sup>th</sup> year of Independence. To mark this important occasion, the State Government has envisioned putting in place certain milestones such as affordable health care, total sanitation, quality education, <b>clean drinking water supply</b> , etc. To be able to achieve these targets, we would require to assistance and expertise of the Central Government including the NEC.
Para 6 (vi) Pg. 5	Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura	(vi) Proposed North Eastern Water Management Agency  I am very happy to inform that <b>Tripura has emerged as the Best Performer</b> in the 'North-Eastern & Himalaya States' category as per the NITI Aayog's <b>Composite Water Management Index (CWMI) Report</b> issued last month.  Due to the geo-strategic significance attached to this region, it is very critical for the North-Eastern states to have a <b>holistic and reliable data bank for its rivers</b> . This Agency can play a crucial role in ensuring the availability of this data.  Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi ji has taken various measures to enhance the <b>East of Living</b> for citizens in the country. Availability of clean drinking water is imperative for living a good quality life. This Agency can play an instrumental role in developing <b>techniques to ensure the availability of clean drinking water to citizens</b> across North-East India thereby creating best practices which can be further emulated in other parts of the country.

## Sector: Banking, Industries & Tourism

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
Para 3 Pg. 6	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	<p>The State of Arunachal Pradesh is an unexplored region which has huge tourism potential. It is one of the most beautiful tourist hot-spots of the country. North Eastern Council had recently changed its guidelines to focus on tourism in the NER. Regional tourism has now been identified as one of the focused areas of NEC. This is a very positive step which will surely lead to improvement of tourism infrastructure in the state. Our tourism is not restricted to mere natural sightseeing but also has scope of developing spiritual tourism, eco-tourism, cultural tourism, Adventure tourism including development of special tourist's circuits like Buddhist Circuit / Krishna Circuit.</p> <p>There is a scope for promotion of a new Buddhist Tourism Network to attract tourists from Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam to Buddhist pilgrimage centres in Sikkim, Nepal, Bhutan along with Gaya and Lumbini.</p>
Pg. 11	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	It is suggested that NEC develops linkages with major financial institutions of the country to promote credit off take in Arunachal Pradesh. It can provide a credit risk guarantee fund for promoting entrepreneurs in the state.
Pg. 11	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	I request Union Ministry of Finance to open the RBI bank branch in Arunachal Pradesh at the earliest as it is very important to bring fiscal discipline in both commercial as well as government banks.
Pg. 2	Prof. Jagdish Mukhi, Hon'ble Governor of Assam	I call upon the Ministry of DoNER to pay adequate attention and draw up an action plan for positioning North East as the springboard for India's Act East Policy.
Pg. 2 & 3	Prof. Jagdish Mukhi, Hon'ble Governor of Assam	Assam is geo-strategically located in the North East and Guwahati is the Gateway to North Eastern Region. All the North Eastern states have received benefits, directly or indirectly from the existing infrastructure of Assam and especially in Guwahati. It is needless to mention that any development projects taken up in Assam, would as a natural corollary leads to the development of other states. Bearing this same spirit

<b>Para &amp; Page Number of the Speech</b>	<b>Points raised by</b>	<b>Actionable Points</b>
<b>[1]</b>	<b>[2]</b>	<b>[3]</b>
		may I request the Ministry of DoNER of conceiving a project of making Guwahati the Kunming of India which can stimulate the growth of other North Eastern States as vibrant region to take Nation's Act East to its logical conclusion.
<b>Pg. 3</b>	<b>Prof. Jagdish Mukhi, Hon'ble Governor of Assam</b>	Also, the Ministry of DoNER should impress upon the Ministries of Home and External Affairs to initiate talks with their counterparts of ASEAN countries to set up their consulates in Guwahati. So that our people do not have to go to New Delhi and the same work can be done from Guwahati itself.
<b>Pg. 3</b>	<b>Prof. Jagdish Mukhi, Hon'ble Governor of Assam</b>	Due to lack of adequate job opportunity in the region a huge number of educated youth migrate to other parts of the country in search of jobs. Through industrialization and appropriate investment it can be minimized. Therefore, NEC should come up with appropriate scheme to promote investment in relevant sectors to create jobs for the youths in the region.
<b>Pg. 3</b>	<b>Prof. Jagdish Mukhi, Hon'ble Governor of Assam</b>	In Assam Tea Industry is highly developed and has a global presence. However, it has not spread in similar manner to the other adjoining states of the North East where the prospects are equally good. I feel that the NEC should examine the reason and find ways to extend the already developed tea industry to the other states of the region.
<b>Page 5 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Dr. Najma Heptulla, Hon'ble Governor of Manipur</b>	NE States are the corridors for India's Act East Policy. My State Manipur is one of the important gateways to South East Asia because of its locational advantage. It shares international boundary with Myanmar. Asian Highway-1 and Asian Highway-2 will pass through Manipur. Moreh town is the trade centre of Manipur(India) with Myanmar and adjoining Tamu is trade centre on the Myanmar side. In the near future, Imphal shall be connected with rest of the country by Jiribam-Tupul- Imphal railway line, a National Project. Survey for the plan of extension of railway line from Imphal to Moreh is in process. Further, North Eastern States including Manipur offer wide range of potential not only in trade & Commerce but also in tourism such as eco-tourism, adventure tourism, cultural and ethnic heritage tourism, health tourism, etc. This will not only

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		generate income but also generate direct and indirect employment for the people of our States. NE states including Manipur will play a major role in actualising Act East Policy.
<b>Para 15</b>	<b>Shri Ganga Prasad, Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya</b>	The State Government has identified numerous way-side markets along the State and National Highways and Tourism Circuits across the State. The products available in the stalls at these markets are mostly home made products such as processed agro-based food products, honey, local fruits, vegetables, handicrafts, handloom, broom sticks, etc. However, these stalls are of traditional forms with temporary sheds which are open structures and without proper shelves for displaying the products. The NEC is requested to intervene by formulating a scheme for construction of modern way-side markets to be equipped with better facilities like proper drinking water supply, toilets, parking spaces, refreshment areas, etc which will incentivize and promote the entrepreneurs to sell their products in a more organized and attractive way
<b>Pg. 3</b>	<b>Shri Kummanam Rajasekharan, Hon'ble Governor of Mizoram</b>	The proposal to include North Eastern Council as a major partner in the Government's Act East Policy initiatives is most welcome. The realization of Act East Policy initiatives in the form of economic dividends to the NE Region is eagerly awaited. I believe that each North Eastern State, including Mizoram, have to be provisioned to play a more active role under the umbrella of the Act East policy. But a policy like this cannot be implemented in a vacuum. Certain prerequisites like developed infrastructure, a detailed product and market-specific realistic study of the region's export potential, development of a competitive production base in the hinterland and, finally and importantly, making the local communities involved and informed stakeholders, have to be met. Otherwise, in spite of Act East Policy, North East would remain just a corridor for movement of goods and services across borders. The existing rudimentary infrastructure for border trade would need a major overhaul and further improvement for the State to break out of its landlocked borders and engage in

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		cultural, economic and tourism related interactions with our international neighbors.
Para 13 Pg. 4	Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh	During the conclave, it also emerged that there is a need to provide banking services to the farmers which is lacking in our state. We have launched lots of new schemes last year like CM Krishi Rinn Yojana, CM Bunkar Yojana and Swavalamban Yojana which had provision of providing capital subsidy and credit subsidy on farm and entrepreneur loans. However, the schemes did not yield much result because of lack of support from the banks. Our Credit Deposit Ratio is one of the lowest in the country (29%) against the national average of 78%. I would request Ministry of DoNER and NEC to provide a platform where we can have more formal interaction with banks to penetrate banking services in remote areas of our state
Para 20 Pg. 6	Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh	Arunachal has the largest area under bamboo cultivation in the country. In spite of being endowed with considerable bamboo resource; we have been able to tap its true potential. NEC must support value addition resource through an integrated value chain project which links the farmer with the bamboo processing facilities. This will be a crucial source of livelihood for our people. We have submitted a proposal with regards to development of bamboo sector in Arunachal Pradesh with an outlay of Rs. 57 Crore to the NITI AAYOG. I would request Ministry of DoNER and NEC to take it up with NITI AAYOG for funding this important project
Para 21 Pg. 6 & 7	Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh	Arunachal Pradesh has a huge tourism potential. It is one of the most beautiful and hot-spots of the country. North Eastern Council had recently guidelines and focused areas. Regional tourism has now been identified as one of the focused areas of NEC. This is a very positive step to lay focus on the tourism potential of the State. Tourism plays a vital role in the economic development of a State or Country. In India it is one of the largest foreign exchange earners. The tourism industry employs large number of people, both skilled and unskilled. It promotes national integration and international brotherhood. Our tourism is not restricted to one form and we have scope of developing spiritual



Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		tourism, eco-tourism, cultural tourism, Adventure tourism and development of special tourist circuits like Buddhist Circuit
Pg. 1 & 2	<b>Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam</b>	Respected Chairman, though nature has endowed North-East region with immense riches yet the region remained backward for so many decades. This bleak scenario of past is now all set to change with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision to make North-East as 'New Engine' of India's growth. To turn this vision into reality, Modiji enunciated Act East Policy with North-East at its centre. North-East has been put in the forefront of development initiatives of Central Government. We must thank Hon'ble Prime Minister for taking a keen interest in development of North-East region. He has ensured regular visits of Ministers and officers of Union Government to the region. He has himself visited North-East region many times. He has given tremendous push to development of infrastructure in the region, be it roads or railways or airways. The political will displayed by Hon'ble Modiji in mainstreaming North-East has no parallel in the history of the region. I am sure that Act East Policy will give rich dividends to the region in terms of tourism, investment and trade. It is here that the NEC being a pan regional body can play a crucial role. The NEC and the Ministry of DoNER may take up issues of infrastructure projects like roads, waterways, airways and telecom for better connectivity with South-East Asia with concerned Ministries of Government of India.
Pg. 3	<b>Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam</b>	The NEC can also coordinate with Ministry of External Affairs to facilitate easy movement and people to people contact of North-East India with South and South-East Asia, which will lead to more tourism, trade and commerce. This requires opening up of consulates of ASEAN countries in Guwahati. Already Bangladesh and Bhutan have set up their consulates in Guwahati. The NEC can also take up with External Affairs Ministry to simplify existing visa regime including introduction of provisions like visa-on-arrival. The necessity of restricted area permit required for coming to North-Eastern region may be relaxed for ASEAN countries. I also humbly suggest that North-East Council may think

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		of hosting festival in each of the ASEAN countries to project rich heritage, culture, handlooms, handicrafts, industrial and tourist potential of all North-Eastern States.
Pg. 5	<b>Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam</b>	Respected Chairman, North-Eastern region has the highest concentration of bamboo resources in the country. It accounts for 66 percent of India's bamboo. Using latest technology, the vast resources of bamboo can be used as a force multiplier for rapid industrialisation in the region. Promoting value addition in bamboo as an industry will work as a catalyst to materialise Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dream of making North-East as new engine of India's growth.
	<b>Shri N Biren Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur</b>	Sir, Manipur is poised as the "Gateway to South East Asia" because of its geographical and locational advantage. Moreh town in Manipur is the centre of trade with Myanmar. Vide Gazette Notification Dated June 1, 2018, Ministry of Home Affairs has notified Moreh as Immigration point for entry and exit with valid documents. Imphal is well connected by flight, by road and will soon be connected by Jiribam-Tupul-Imphal railway line. Asian Highway-1 and Asian Highway-2 will pass through Moreh and Imphal. Manipur has potential in sports and tourism, ranging from eco-tourism, adventure tourism, cultural and ethnic heritage tourism, and health tourism. I am confident that Manipur is poised to play a major role in actualising Act East Policy. NEC may be included as a major partner in the Government's Act East Policy.
Para 11 Pg. 6	<b>Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya</b>	<b>Act East Policy</b> : About 98% of the region's border form India's international boundary. Given its strategic location,, this region can be developed as the base for India's growing economic links not only with the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) but also with neighbouring countries viz., Bangladesh, Bhutan, China & Nepal. There is a need for international air connectivity between the North Eastern States with Yangoon , Naypyidaw in Burma, Bangkok and other South East Asian cities for promotion of trade and tourism. Further, Special Economic Corridors and Special Economic Zones (SEZs)

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<p>need to be developed with focus on export and also to meet the domestic demands of the region. Our main focus should be on processing units of agricultural and allied produces which can also generate employment. NEC should be mandated to take up this issue with the Government of India on behalf of the NE States.</p>
<p><b>Para 12 Pg. 6</b></p>	<p><b>Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya</b></p>	<p><b>Tourism</b> : Over the recent years, there has been a boom in the flow of both domestic and international tourists in the State. There is a demand for the development of tourist circuits to encourage tourists to explore the hidden and exotic destinations in the State showcasing its huge bio-diversity and unique culture. This would include eco-tourism, adventure tourism and cave tourism. The North Eastern States have similar potentiality and can collectively become one of the most favoured tourist destinations. To promote the region as an exclusive tourist destinations, investment in inter-state air, road, rail and water connectivity is required. Being a regional body, the NEC should continue to spearhead development of these crucial sectors.</p>
<p><b>Para 8</b></p>	<p><b>Shri Lal Thanhawla, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram</b></p>	<p>The proposal for inclusion of the NEC as a major partner in the Act East Policy is heartening. The erstwhile Look East Policy gave hope to the people of North East particularly for trade-led growth of the NE Region and its economic integration with one of the fastest growing economies i.e. South East Asia. We initially considered that with the Look East Policy, North Eastern Region had, for the first time, become an important component of India's foreign policy bringing a new paradigm of development in the North East perspective. As such, Look East Policy of the Government of India was an important landmark in the history of North Eastern Region. However, even after almost two decades of its policy announcement, it has had no impact on the region's economy. The required ground support like a detailed product and market specific study of the region's export potential, a competitive production base, developed infrastructure and involving the local people as informed stakeholders are still required. The fact that India's North East states</p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		are the gateway to India's relation with its neighbouring countries has been ignored for quite a long time. Perhaps, we may need to act "North East" before acting "East".
Para 9	Shri Lal Thanhawla, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram	If Act East Policy is to be made into reality, State Governments of the North East should be sufficiently involved both at the level of policy formulation and implementation. Mizoram has a long international boundary with Myanmar and Bangladesh. The people of the State have trade relationship with the people across the border in formal and informal forms in some border trade points. These practices need to be institutionalized for socio-economic upliftment of local populous, State, Region and Country as a whole.
Para 12 & 13	Shri Lal Thanhawla, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram	<p>As I have said earlier, although the Look East policy was in existence for more than two decades, nothing much as happened beyond opening of border trade points. A fresh insight has come about after rephrasing the policy to Act East Policy. Several issues and challenges such as trade and investment complementarities, connectivity, security, strategic partnership with East Asian countries are there which need to be put in place in order to reap significant benefits from such a policy.</p> <p>I would strongly suggest that the policy may need to graduate from rhetoric to specific action plan. We may need to develop a policy document with detail action plan including development plans for the North East Region.</p>
Para 8	Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland	The Act East Policy is a commitment of the Government of India and a long-cherished dream of the North Eastern States. It is imperative to put in place the NE region as the gateway for trade and other economic activities with South East Asian countries. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that the progress of northeastern India is "at the heart of the Act East Policy" of the Government. In this regard, NEC as Regional Planning Body has a major role to play in opening up the country to South-east Asia.
Para 15 &	Shri Neiphu Rio,	In the absence of large-scale industries, tourism is one

<b>Para &amp; Page Number of the Speech</b>	<b>Points raised by</b>	<b>Actionable Points</b>
<b>[1]</b>	<b>[2]</b>	<b>[3]</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland</b>	of the alternatives that can play a pivotal role in the socio-economic development of the State. Like the rest of the region, Nagaland, with its vibrant culture and heritage, panoramic landscapes and natural beauty, rich exotic flora, fauna and biodiversity offers unique experiences for tourists unlike anywhere else. The challenge lies in making the State accessible to the tourists from mainland India and other countries. The State and the region in general face acute problems in connectivity as mentioned earlier. It is suggested to promote private entrepreneurs in the field of hospitality and other tourism related activities for development of tourism in NE Region. There is a need to augment tourist infrastructure by setting up Guest Houses and Hotels in remote locations to help rural tourism pick up. Considering the potential for development and scope for employability, the resource allocation in respect of tourism sector may be suitably enhanced.
<b>Para 17</b>	<b>Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland</b>	It may be mentioned that the State Government, against the backdrop of the huge success and popularity of the Hornbill Festival held in December every year, has decided to hold Mini Hornbill festivals in the districts, coinciding with the local festivals to boost tourism. This will enable the tourism industry to expand to all corners of the State and benefit larger sections of the population and positively contribute towards the overall growth of the economy
<b>Para 18</b>	<b>Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland</b>	There is also a need to introduce tourism circuits that interconnects the northeastern region so that we tap into each other's strength and offer the tourist experiences that are not only unique but also wider in scope with a larger variety of options
<b>Para 19</b>	<b>Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland</b>	I request the NEC/ DoNER for establishment of a University for Tourism & Service Industry that will cover all aspects of the tourism and service industry like hotel management, civil aviation, tourism management, etc
<b>Para 25</b>	<b>Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland</b>	The development of bamboo in the State can be taken up from two perspectives; as a resource and as an enterprise. Nagaland has 5% of the total growing stock of bamboo of India with an annual yield assessed at

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<p>8.35 lakh metric ones worth over Rs. 200 crores. This fast regenerating plant has great economic potential and can be made a commercial product through value addition and appropriate technology intervention. The Paper Mill at Tuli alone can consume 3.0 lakh metric ones of green bamboo provided its revival takes place. Another option is to use Bamboo for production of Methanol that can be mixed with petroleum to save costs.</p>

## Sector: Transport & Communication

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
Para 1 (a) Pg. 2 & 3	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	<p>(a) <b>Road:</b> Arunachal Pradesh has the largest area amongst all the North Eastern States with a road density of approximately 20 kilometers per 100 square kilometers. This is very less as compared to the national average of 82. Not only is the road density low but also percentage of surface roads is less.</p> <p>The cost of construction is very high in Arunachal Pradesh as compared to other states as 80% of the State area is mountainous with deep gorges, steep hills, rocky ridges and turbulent rivers accompanied with unsurmountable hostile environment. These factors lead to escalation of costs as well as delay in completion of projects.</p> <p>There are 3 important road projects which if completed can change the development discourse of our state. These are the 1500 Km Trans Arunachal highway, Arunachal Frontier Highway and East West Corridor.</p> <p>Ongoing project of Trans Arunachal highway connects all the District Headquarters and important towns running through the middle of the State from East to West. The progress of Trans Arunachal Highway has been slow due to geomorphology of the region leading to massive landslides and limited working season of 6 months. However, 40% of the works have been completed in most of the stretches. We are hopeful that majority of the projects under Trans Arunachal Highway will get completed by 2020. I would also request National Highway Authority of India Limited (NHIDCL) to expedite the projects under Trans Arunachal Highway.</p>
Para 1 (a) Pg. 3	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	<p>Our state has also conceived a strategic road network project along the International Border "Arunachal Frontier Highway" which will strengthen mobility of our security forces as well as provide state of the art road infrastructure along the International Borders. The Arunachal Frontiers Highway will connect most of the villages and administrative centers in the Northern region within 0-10 Km of the International boundary. This will also help in arresting stress migration of</p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		population from the sensitive Indo-China border. I appeal to the Ministry of Home Affairs to expedite survey and investigation works of this crucial project. I also appeal to the NEC to become partner in building this strategically vital project a great success.
Para 1 (a) Pg. 3	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	The third important road project is the East West Corridor. The proposed East West Corridor from Bairabkhund (popular picnic spot in Udalguri district in the State of Assam) to Ruksin near Pasighat will be a huge boost in improving connectivity in the lower reaches of the State. Since the region is located along the Assam border, it will also enable people of Arunachal Pradesh to move from one district to another without having to enter Assam.
Para 1 (c) Pg. 4	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	<p><b>(C) Air Connectivity :</b> I am thankful to hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji, and Union Civil Aviation Ministry who have gone extra mile to start the civil flights from Passighat Airport. With this, Arunachal Pradesh has also come on the map of Civil Aviation in India. However, this is just the starting point for our state.</p> <p>NEC funded Tezu airport implemented by Airports Authority of India(AAI) is nearing completion and I request the Central Government through this forum to immediately start Commercial flight service from Tezu airport which has been approved under UDAAN –II scheme. It will help connect the far Eastern district of Lohit, Namsai, Anjaw Lower Dibang Valley and Changlang with rest of the country.</p> <p>Under UDAAN-II scheme, we will also be getting low cost helicopter services to 6 ALGs which are Along, Itanagar, Tuting, Walong, Yingkiong and Ziro which will strengthen the connectivity to these far flung areas. State Government has also launched CM Air Connectivity scheme to provide external infrastructure to the ALGs and airports which have come under UDAAN-II. I would urge NEC to provide additional assistance to provide external infrastructure to such ALGs.</p>
Pg. 1	Prof. Jagdish Mukhi, Hon'ble Governor of	We all know that North Eastern Region is unique in its mix of rich natural resources. However, the Region is



Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
	<b>Assam</b>	linked with the rest of the Country by a narrow strip of land. Despite all these strengths and weaknesses, it should be admitted that North East has enormous potentials to develop and prosper as one of the developed regions in the Country. Notwithstanding its chicken's neck syndrome. NEC should look for ways and means to develop connectivity of the region with rest of the country and other ASEAN and BBN countries through airways and waterways.
<b>Para 12</b>	<b>Shri Ganga Prasad, Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya</b>	Over the recent years, the problem of traffic congestion in Shillong city has become an area of concern. One of the measures which can decongest the road in the city is to construct a flyover from Bara Bazaar to the intersection at Civil Hospital, Shillong. This fly-over will reduce the density of traffic in the Police Bazaar area as well as its adjoining areas. However, land for the purpose belongs to the Ministry of Defence, Government of India. The State Government has put forward a request to the Ministry of Defence to hand over the required stretch of land to the State for this purpose. The NEC is requested to take up the matter with the Ministry of Defence and the other concerned Ministries of the Government of India to expedite the matter.
<b>Para 13</b>	<b>Shri Ganga Prasad, Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya</b>	<b>Baljek Airport</b> : Located in Jengjal, West Garo Hills District, this Airport with 3300 ft runway was completed in 2008 and inaugurated by the then President of India, Smti Pratibha Patil on the 22 <sup>nd</sup> October, 2008. However, the airport has remained non-functional even after completion due to the fact that the Airport was conceived as a STOL (Short Taking Off and Landing) Airport with a runway of around 1120 metres which is capable of handling only a 20-seater aircraft of Dornier class that are no longer in operation. Hence, NEC is requested to include the upgradation of Baljek Airport including its maintenance as one of the projects under the scheme of the NEC for improvement / upgradation of Airports in the North Eastern region.  NEC is requested to continue with its proactive steps for encouraging better air connectivity and the

<b>Para &amp; Page Number of the Speech</b>	<b>Points raised by</b>	<b>Actionable Points</b>
<b>[1]</b>	<b>[2]</b>	<b>[3]</b>
		operationalisation of airports in different parts of NER under the Regional Air Connectivity scheme of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India
<b>Pg. 3 &amp; 4</b>	<b>Shri Kummanam Rajasekharan, Hon'ble Governor of Mizoram</b>	Poor connectivity within the North Eastern Region and with other region remains critical issue for economic development in the region. As for my State, Mizoram, road transport is the biggest transport infrastructure. The State is connected through air with one airport at Lengpui. The State does not have waterways, and railway connectivity is under construction. Road transport has played a very important role in the development of the State. However, due to hilly terrain and heavy rains through the year, road condition in the state is much to be desired. Moreover, the total length of roads in the state is 7632 kms with road density of 36.19 km/100 sq km only which is way below the national average of 166 km/ 100 sq km. The total fund requirement for maintenance of existing roads under State Government alone is a burden for a small State like Mizoram. The total fund requirement for maintenance of State roads per kilometer is about Rs. 6.45 lakh per annum which works out to be about Rs. 300 crores per annum. A massive investment would be required to catch up with national average of 166 km/ 100 sq. km.
<b>Pg. 6</b>	<b>Shri P.B. Acharya, Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland</b>	<b>We have been speaking on connectivity by road and air issues in NEC for the last four years but the condition of the roads and other forms of connectivity remain dismal and I would urge this forum to form a committee of local experts and users to help in identifying constraints in transforming the situation.</b>
<b>Pg. 7</b>	<b>Shri P.B. Acharya, Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland</b>	<b>Here I would like to mention that Kohima is the only State Capital in the country without an airport. I would urge that the proposed Greenfield Airport for Kohima (Chiethu) be expeditiously taken up. Although the State is strategically located, only when there is good connectivity, will the State and country be able to leverage on the Act East policy.</b>
<b>Pg. 2</b>	<b>Shri Shriniwas Patil, Hon'ble Governor of</b>	The border trade with the Tibetan Autonomous Region (China) has been going on smoothly without any

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
	Sikkim	hiccups. We look forward to Government of India for assistance to further strengthen the border trade mart, the quarantine facilities, check posts and other amenities that are required for the border trade. The present facilities are rudimentary and I hope the concerned agencies of Government of India would come forward to strengthen the infrastructure for this border trade.
Pg. 3	Shri Shrinivas Patil, Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim	Though Sikkim is well connected by roads within the State through major district roads, other district roads, earthen roads and PMGSY roads, maintenance of roads has remained a challenge due to harsh climatic conditions and the magnitude of annual onslaught of monsoon. In order to reduce the distance, time and cost, the State Government is proposing construction of tunnels at various stretches of road within the State.
Pg. 4	Shri Shrinivas Patil, Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim	<p>Sikkim is connected with the rest of the country by a single connectivity through NH-10. This road is susceptible to landslide during the monsoon and frequent political disturbance in the neighbourhood. The State has already suffered a irreparable loss due to the Gorkhaland agitation since 1986.</p> <p>We request Government of India to upgrade NH10 into a four lane highway with tunnels wherever feasible in order to reduce the distance and time with 100% central funding.</p>
Pg. 5	Shri Shrinivas Patil, Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim	The railway project for Sikkim has been delayed over last one decade. Recently, the Gorkha Territorial Administration, Darjeeling has given its NOC to North Eastern Frontier Railways under the Forest Rights Act 2006. We now hope that the railways will speed up the construction work on the rail network to Sikkim.
Pg. 6	Shri Shrinivas Patil, Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim	Very recently on the 4 <sup>th</sup> of July, 2018 at Gangtok, the secretary, NEC reviewed the 26 ongoing projects of the State. Against NEC release of Rs. 169.29 crores, we have utilized Rs. 147.48 crores. The State Government has requested for early consideration and sanction of the New District Hospital at Mangan and the <b>Inter State</b>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<b>Bus Terminus at Gangtok</b> , which were earlier retained by NEC.
Para 4 Pg. 2	Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh	I am very happy to inform everyone that with the starting of 42-seater ATR aircraft service from Kolkata to Pasighat via Guwahati by Alliance Airlines, our State has entered a new era in civil aviation. I thank Hon'ble Prime Minister, the Civil Aviation Ministry and all concerned for the efforts taken to achieve this feat in a short time. Our second airport at Tezu is also ready for operation and air service to this eastern township is also expected soon. I would like to thank the North Eastern Council for funding this important project. I am hopeful that with the continued support of the Government of India under UDAAN-II, we will be able to link few other important and far-flung destinations of our State with the rest of the country which will boost connectivity, tourism and other economic activities
Para 5 Pg. 2	Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh	Our dream of having an airport in the State Capital is yet to come true and the people of the States are eagerly waiting for this project to materialize. I would like to inform all that my Government has finalized the site of the Greenfield airport that is Hollongi and has reduced the cost of land acquisition and rehabilitation drastically by one third of the original cost. I would urge the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) to provide funds for Green Field Airport at Hollongi over and above its normative allocation of Rs. 195.90 Crore in the line of Tezu Airport funded by North Eastern Council.
Para 6 Pg. 2	Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh	I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the Hon'ble Home Minister of India, Shri Rajnath Singh Ji and MoS, Shri Kiren Rijiju for expediting the proposal submitted by the State Government for construction of Arunachal Frontier Highway along the International border and East West Industrial Corridor along the foothills. These projects on completion will strategically strengthen our armed forces at the border, promote tourism in border areas and mitigate migration of people from border villages to foothill areas.

<b>Para &amp; Page Number of the Speech</b>	<b>Points raised by</b>	<b>Actionable Points</b>
<b>[1]</b>	<b>[2]</b>	<b>[3]</b>
<b>Para 7 Pg. 2 &amp; 3</b>	<b>Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh</b>	Construction of the Trans Arunachal Highway is also progressing at a sluggish pace due to constraints of tough weather and massive landslides in the region. However once the project is completed, it will serve as the lifeline of the State and facilitate the movement of traffic from one corner of the State to the other without depending on connecting roads of Assam. I would like to brief the house that this project is under Design, Finance, Build, Operate and Transfer (DFBOT) mode which is under execution by MoRTH. It is a very grim situation although the land has been made available; the concessionaire has applied for foreclosure of the project. During the monsoon season nearly about 414Km long road is prone to flood damages mainly in the form of landslides and formation road wash outs. People of these areas are suffering due to the dilapidated road condition. Recent roads accidents at Akajan-Likabali-Bame stretch were very disturbing and it is related that NHIDCL takes necessary safety Measures to prevent such incidents in future.
<b>Para 8 Pg. 3</b>	<b>Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh</b>	The primary reason for foreclosure of Potin-Pangin stretch is that the project was too big to be implemented by one agency. During the meeting with Union Minister of Road, transport and Highways on 28/02/2018. It was decided to split the Potin-Pangin Stretch in realistic sections to complete the work immediately. I would like to request MoRTH to expedite construction of Potin-Pangin stretch, as State PWD has submitted 9 Nos. of DPRs to the Ministry as per the decision taken on 28/02/2018.
<b>Para 9 Pg. 3</b>	<b>Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh</b>	I would also like to request North Eastern Council (NEC) to give more emphasis on connectivity especially to the roads sector. Arunachal Pradesh has the lowest density of roads network in the North Eastern region. On the same lines of Central Road Fund, NEC can explore the possibility of forming a separate fund which focuses on big road projects in the North Eastern Region.
<b>Para 10 Pg. 3</b>	<b>Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister</b>	There is an important scheme that is North East Road Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS) which is under

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
	of Arunachal Pradesh	NEC and being administered and monitored by Ministry of DoNER. Under the scheme, 10 orphan roads in Arunachal Pradesh bordering with Assam have been identified. However, while prioritizing the schemes, there is no representation of the State Government. I would request NEC and Ministry of DoNER to revisit the guidelines to include the representation of the State Governments while prioritizing the schemes. Further, the funding under NERSDS must be increased as the amount of Rs. 100 Crore is very meager for taking such a big project.
Para 25 Pg. 8	Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh	<b>We also welcome the bold step taken by Ministry of DoNER in bringing out a new scheme that is NESIDS and closing the NLCPR scheme. However, I would request Ministry of DoNER to sanction the projects which were retained in 2017-18 as all of them are road projects and there may be public outrage if the projects are closed. I also feel that guidelines framed must be applied for future projects and not retrospectively.</b>
Para 7 & 8 Pg. 8	Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh	Any forward movement on Act East Policy requires establishing strong and robust transportation networks in the region. To improve road connectivity in the State, Centre has declared 15 new national highways with length of 1025 km. Besides, 31 State roads with aggregate length of 1846 km have also been declared as national highway 'in principle.' NHIDCL has taken the responsibility for up-gradation and development of a total of 27 road projects covering 993 km. Out of these, 19 projects are presently under civil execution which covers approximately 478 kms. The projects include 4-lane connectivity from Numaligarh to Dibrugarh on NH-37, Nagaon to Hologgi on NH-52 including a bridge on river Brahmaputra near Kaliabhomora. All these roads are important for Assam as well as neighbouring States in North East. However, the progress is far from satisfactory. NHIDCL may be asked to speed up construction and at the same time maintain the existing roads in traffic worthy condition till completion of the projects.
Para 6 Pg. 4	Shri Conrad K Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister	<b>Umroi Airport</b> : In March 2018, an amount of Rs. 178.38 Crore was sanctioned by the NEC for extension

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
	of Meghalaya	of the runway Umroi airport to make the airport suitable for operation of A-320 type of aircrafts to land. The Airport Authority of India has pointed out that few obstacles will need to be removed in the approach funnel on the northern side of the airport, if larger airplanes were to land. The obstacles are in the form of trees, hills, buildings and human settlements within the approach funnel. The cost of removal of these obstructions is enormous and will be time consuming and they will involve issued like environmental clearances, re-location of habitations, land acquisition process, etc. The NEC and the Government of India is requested to assist the State Government in ensuring that the airport becomes functional for the larger aircrafts.
Para 10 Pg. 5	Shri Conrad K Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya	Connectivity is the most important key to development of a region; be it <b>road, rail, waterways, air, power or telecommunication</b> . Connectivity helps in the overall economic development and social integration of the region. The present status of telecommunication in the region requires upgradation to ensure a faster and more reliable connectivity with a larger area of coverage. I urge upon the Government of India to provide special attention to this matter and to put in place schemes to improve internet connectivity In the region.
Para 10	Shri Lal Thanhawla, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram	I believe that <b>lack of connectivity remains the biggest hurdle to the development in the region and is holding up the unlocking of the vast economic potential of the region. Connectivity among the North Eastern States has always been neglected. Particularly due to harsh climate and topography, road, railways and air connectivity to the region need to be properly planned and strengthened. Our immediate requirement is construction, up-gradation and proper maintenance of roads within the North Eastern Region.</b>
Para 21	Shri Lal Thanhawla, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram	To conclude, I would like to reiterate that we in the North Eastern States are trying our best efforts to make progress in our respective States. There is,

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<p>however, ample scope for larger involvement of the North Eastern Council for socio-economic development of the Region. The existing development lag must be bridged through credible infrastructure for sustainable development in the region to make North East Region as “new engine of growth” in the country.</p>
<p>Para 9</p>	<p>Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon’ble Chief Minister of Nagaland</p>	<p>Infrastructure and connectivity are two basic requirements essential for economic development of a region. The need for infrastructure becomes more acute for hilly and mountainous areas that are on one hand difficult to traverse and on the other hand tend to be sparsely populated. Thus, there is a need for heavy investments in infrastructure development such as road, rail and air networks, power generation, high-speed internet connectivity etc.</p>
<p>Para 10</p>	<p>Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon’ble Chief Minister of Nagaland</p>	<p>A land locked State, like Nagaland, depends totally on road, air and rail connectivity and there is a need to strengthen the same to achieve physical integration with the mainland and give impetus to economic development. One of the major challenges of road connectivity, on which we are overwhelmingly dependent, is maintenance. Nagaland is marred with unstable soil condition; landslides and heavy rainfall aggravating damage to roads shortening its life span. Limited resources of the State compounds this problem. I request that this Forum may address this problem by making a provision for maintenance of roads.</p>
<p>Para 11</p>	<p>Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon’ble Chief Minister of Nagaland</p>	<p>Kohima, the capital of Nagaland, does not have an airport till date. This issue has been brought up in various national forums. The then Prime Minister of India, Shri. Atal Bihari Vajpayee had desired for development of the Ciethu Greenfield Airport project for Kohima. Government of Nagaland had acquired around 300 acres of land for this purpose and the Airports Authority of India have made technical survey and there is a suitability of having a 2500-meter Airstrip at the proposed site and also has the</p>



Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<b>possibility for further expansion in future. However, the project is yet to be materialized, therefore, depriving Kohima, the only State capital from air connectivity.</b>
Para 12	Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland	On the upgradation of the Dimapur Airport, it needs to be sanctioned on priority as the construction of new airport terminal at Dimapur has remained in the master plan for years now and is yet to be an approved project.
Para 13	Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland	While air connectivity has improved across the country, Nagaland still has only two flights a day. There is no direct flight to Delhi and very often one-way fares to Delhi vary from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 33,000. There is an urgent need to introduce more flights connecting Dimapur to Guwahati, Kolkata and Delhi. The national carrier, Air India must play a more contributory role by at least introducing a daily flight that connects to the national capital directly either via Guwahati or Kolkata.
Para 14	Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland	In this regard, the GoI's "Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik – Regional Connectivity Scheme" (UDAN-RCS) would play a pivotal role in establishing interconnectivity between Nagaland and other States of the region and the country. I therefore take this opportunity to request the Government of India and the NEC to kindly look into the matter so that the common citizens of Nagaland can benefit from this policy like our neighbouring sister states.
Para 6(iii) Page 4	Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura	<p><b>(iii) Road Connectivity in the North-East Region</b></p> <p>Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji has enunciated the <b>HIRA Model (Highways, i-ways, Railways and Airports)</b> for development of Tripura. Hon'ble PM has time and again reiterated the vision for '<b>Transformation by Transportation</b>' of North East India.</p> <p>The importance of a world-class road network is most crucial for a land-locked state like Tripura. Under the leadership of Union Minister, Shri Nitin Gadkari, comprehensive efforts have been undertaken for the development of National Highways in Tripura. Hon'ble President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind ji recently inaugurated one such Highway (NH-08) in Tripura last</p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<p>month.</p> <p>Due to the strategic location of Tripura with regards to its proximity to Bangladesh, various connectivity projects are being currently undertaken in Tripura and I believe the same must also be the case with various North Eastern states sharing their borders with various neighbouring countries.</p> <p>On the lines of Pragati review mechanism adopted by PM Shri Narendra Modi ji, Government of Tripura has initiated <b>Assuring Good &amp; Responsive Governance and Timely Implementation (AGRGTI)</b> review mechanism where I undertake periodic reviews of various ongoing projects in the state.</p> <p>The Ministry of Road Transport &amp; Highways (MoRTH) can explore the possibility of setting up a review mechanism at the NEC level. The officials from Indian Embassies in these countries can also be involved to ensure timely implementation of these projects.</p> <p>Currently, <b>Tripura</b> lies at the ‘tail-end’ of the North Eastern region but these connectivity projects with Bangladesh can bring it right in the front, making it a <b>new Gateway for the North-East.</b></p> <p><b>Tripura can become a transportation hub</b> for transporting various goods available in Bangladesh at much lower rates for the benefit of the entire North-Eastern region. This shall not only ensure enhanced trade and commerce between the two countries but also provide impetus to the <b>Neighbouring First</b> policy of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji.</p>

## Sector: Medical & Health

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
Para 6 Pg. 7	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	<b>Health care:</b> Arunachal Pradesh has taken a major leap forward due to starting of new Medical College at Tomo Riba Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (TRIHMS) Naharlagun from this year. I would like to thank Hon'ble Prime Minister and Health Minister to accord approval for operationalization of TRIHMS with 50 MBBS Students. I request Government of India to increase the number of seats in the Medical College to at least 100 from the next year.
Para 6 Pg. 7	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	Considering the nascent state of health infrastructure in Arunachal Pradesh in comparison to other NE states I would request NEC to provide additional allocation of Rs. 50.00 Crore for establishment of Medi City at Pachin, Naharlagun. The Medi City at Pachin will serve as an important hub for all sorts of critical and tertiary care facilities in Arunachal Pradesh.
Pg. 7	Dr. Najma Heptulla, Hon'ble Governor of Manipur	Sir, I would like to draw attention towards Minister DoNER, DrJitendra Singhji's initiative of "Air Dispensary" service for providing health services in the rural and hilly areas of the NE states by helicopters. I understand that an amount of Rs 25 crores has been earmarked by the Ministry of DoNER in 2017-18 as part of the initial funding for this initiative. This will help pregnant mothers and critical care patients in particular to reach the nearest Health Centres for their treatment, who otherwise could not have availed of the facility due to poor connectivity. Sir, through this August house, I request for early launching of this project from Imphal.
Pg. 6	Shri Shrinivas Patil, Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim	<b>Very recently on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, 2018 at Gangtok, the secretary, NEC reviewed the 26 ongoing projects of the State. Against NEC release of Rs. 169.29 crores, we have utilized Rs. 147.48 crores. The State Government has requested for early consideration and sanction of the New District Hospital at Mangan and the Inter</b>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<b>State Bus Terminus at Gangtok, which were earlier retained by NEC.</b>
<b>Para 17 Pg. 5</b>	<b>Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh</b>	My state has recently got the letter of permission to start Tomo Riba Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (TRIHMS) from this academic year. I would like to thank Hon'ble Prime Minister and Health Minister to accord approval for operationalization of TRIHMs with 50 MBBS students. I request Government of India to increase the number of seats in the Medical College to at least 100 from the next year
<b>Para 18 Pg. 5</b>	<b>Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh</b>	As per the Indian Council Medical Research's Report, the incidents of cancer cases are highest in Papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh. Apart from this, out of pocket expenses on health in Arunachal Pradesh are twice that of nation average. These trends clearly show that there are lacks of critical care services in our State. I would request NEC and Ministry of DoNER to link our State with prestigious Cancer care institutions of the country and explore the possibility of opening critical care unit in TRIHMS hospital by providing additional funds.
<b>Para 4 Pg. 3</b>	<b>Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya</b>	The year 2022 is an important year for Meghalaya and the country as a whole since the State will celebrate 50 <sup>th</sup> year of statehood and India will also celebrate it's 75 <sup>th</sup> year of Independence. To mark this important occasion, the State Government has envisioned putting in place certain milestones such as <b>affordable health care</b> , total sanitation, quality education, clean drinking water supply, etc. To be able to achieve these targets, we would required to assistance and expertise of the Central Government including the NEC.
<b>Para 13 Pg. 6 &amp; 7</b>	<b>Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya</b>	<b>Maintenance of assets built through NEC funds</b> : NEC had played a crucial role in building of infrastructure in the North East since its inception. As it continues to build new assets, it is also important not to lose what has already been built. The proposal by NEC for up-gradation of previously funded roads is a welcome step and needs to be acted upon expeditiously with

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		adequate earmarked funds. <b>The scope of the support must also be extended beyond roads to cover buildings and life saving medical equipments which has been supported by NEC in the past.</b>
Para 7	<b>Shri Lal Thanhawla, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram</b>	We also agree with the proposal that the North Eastern Council could be made to become knowledge hub for the North East Region. The North Eastern Council may be able to play meaningful role to oversee the protection of environment, biodiversity and improvement of ecology of the region. Moreover, the NEC may help State Governments in establishing institute of reposes in their respective states. In this regard, I am happy to inform you that the Medical Council of India has approved establishment of first medical College in Mizoram MIMER. The State Government is taking lot of efforts and spending its own funds to qualify for such establishment. I hope that the North Eastern Council will consider supporting our State in this endeavour.

## Sector: Human Resource Development & Employment

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
Para 4 Pg. 6 & 7	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	<p>Due to lack of jobs in Arunachal Pradesh, the skill training courses are not able to translate into meaningful jobs for the youths. For this purpose, there is a need to develop courses focusing on inherent capabilities of the state which are tourism, hospitality sector, IT services and agriculture/horticulture processing.</p> <p>I urge Ministry of DoNER and NEC to come together and devise job linked high end training programs for the youths of North Eastern region to address the most important issue of unemployment.</p>
Para 7 Pg. 8	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	<p>I, on behalf of the State Government extend my heartfelt gratitude to Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble Defence Minister for sanctioning Sainik School at Niglok in East Siang District. This is the first Sainik School in Arunachal Pradesh which will be starting from this year. Since the entire cost of infrastructure and running cost has to be borne by the State Government, I urge North Eastern Council to provide additional fund of Rs. 50.00 Crore to make this lone Sainik School with State of the Art Infrastructure.</p>
Para 7 Pg. 8	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	<p>Similarly, in education sector, the state cannot boast of any reputed educational institutions like IITs, IIMs etc. As a result, the students face problem while pursuing higher education. North Eastern Council may explore the possibility of establishment of regional important educational institution in the State of Arunachal Pradesh in the same lines of IITs/IIMs.</p> <p>I would also urge NEC to open a strategic policy research cell in Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar which can deal with border related issues across the North-Eastern region on the same lines of The APJ Abdul Kalam Centre for Policy Research and Analysis set up by NEC in IIM Shillong.</p>
Pg. 8 & 9	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	<p><b>YOUTH EMPOWERMENT</b></p> <p>There is a need to empower youths of our state as they</p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
	Pradesh	<p>are the future of our society. However, due to paucity of employment opportunities ,most of them remain unemployed. This also leads to the problem of drug addiction as many unemployed youth fall into the trap of drug addiction.</p> <p>For this purpose, my State Government has launched Nasha Mukti Abhiyan where focus is on creation of multiple drug rehabilitation centers in the state. However, our state is struggling in engaging agencies which can administer and rehabilitate drug addicts. I would urge NEC to find a solution to this problem in consultation with Health Ministry, Skill Development Ministry and other stakeholders.</p>
Para 7 Pg. 9	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	Arunachal Pradesh also has a great potential in sports. Majority of the youth are very fit and athletic. In this regard, we need sport facilities, youth centres, skill and entrepreneur avenues to channelize the youthful energies. I request the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Ministry of Human Resource Development to address the requirements. And I again request NEC to provide fund for establishment of 5 (five) State of Art Football Institutes and 5 (Five) Music Institutes in the State. To start with, NEC may provide Rs. 100 Crores for establishing 5 Football Institutes in the state.
Page 4	Dr. Najma Heptulla, Hon'ble Governor of Manipur	<p>I am informed that Expenditure Finance Committee has identified areas/sectors for NEC funding and that all ongoing projects are to be completed by 2020. Sports and water resources sector are not featuring in the identified areas. These two areas also are not covered under North Eastern Infrastructure Development Scheme of Ministry of DoNER.</p> <p>Regarding, Sports Sector sir, we all agree that North East States are the power house of Sports. Our youths' talents, energy, potential require nurturing and for producing world class sports person, there is need for infrastructure development of sports and playfields, where potential youth and sportspersons can practice</p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<p>year-round. At present, most of the playfields are submerged during rainy season and playfields are not fit for practice for five-six months in a year. The requirement under Sports for the NE States and rest of the States in the country would be very different. Moreover, the budget for infrastructure development (capital) under RE 2017-18 for Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports was only Rs. 34.75 crores and there is provision of Rs. 58.04 crores only for 2018-19 for all the States, which will not be sufficient. I, therefore, appeal to the Chairman through this August House to take up the matter for continuation/inclusion of Sports and Water Resources sector for Water Supply and Anti-erosion scheme under NEC funding.</p>
Pg. 7	Dr. Najma Heptulla, Hon'ble Governor of Manipur	<p>Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana is a flagship scheme of our Government. Youths of NE states and Manipur with their improved language skill and short-term training by different skill development agencies under various programmes of the Central Government are getting employment opportunities outside the State particularly in Delhi, Mumbai, Gurgaon and Bangalore. Our youths working outside the State need secure environment at their work place and place of stay and handholding of these youths is required to ensure retention by the Company employing them. I had raised this issue in the previous Plenary Session also. Ministry of DoNER and NEC may co-ordinate and monitor so that maximum youths of NE states and my State in particular get employment within and outside the State.</p>
Para 7	Shri Ganga Prasad, Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya	<p>One of the recommendations of the North Eastern Region Vision 2020 is to achieve a high level of human development. International Youth Exchange Programmes are important means for promoting exchange of ideas and values amongst the youths of different countries. Adequate budgetary provisions should be made for encouraging the youths of NER to participate in such cultural exchange programmes which may be organized in different ASEAN countries and our neighbouring countries in future.</p>



Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
Pg. 4 & 5	Shri P.B. Acharya, Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland	<p><b>Skill Development and Capacity Building</b></p> <p>With a young demographic profile, the State is advantageously placed in terms of availability of human resource in the working age group. However, with the lack of organized private sector in the State to absorb the growing number of youths and a saturated Government sector, this primary resource becomes a challenge. Therefore, to be gainfully employed, these youths need to be imparted with the right skills in conjunction with the ground realities of the region.</p> <p>With their command over the English language, their flair and pleasing personalities, besides others, skill development in the following areas may be considered viz, skill in tourism and hospitality, aviation, nursing, para-medics, wellness, industry, music and entertainment, IT and the BPOs, sports, therapists and specialized skills in automobile sector and in the construction sector. Entrepreneurship skills too need to be developed and for which special handholding is required. In recent years, with the increase in significance of skill development and the training programmes organized in partnership with Central Government's agencies, many youths from the region are now employed in various sectors across the country.</p> <p>During interaction with Vice Chancellors of different Universities in Nagaland, I have urged the Universities to interact with Trade, Industries, Commerce keeping in mind the available natural resources and have skill courses that ensure employment for students. However, the continuing attrition is a concern. These youths who leave their jobs and return back to the State after two-three years of employment add to the unemployment burden of the State. This leaves the State with a paradox of having many young people who have had the experience of being employed but who are no longer employable. Focus is therefore required not only on numbers but also on the quality of employment and the scope for career progression of the young people who are employed outside the State/</p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<p>Region.</p> <p>It is in this context that the decision taken by the 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Committee in its meeting held on 6/10/2015 in New Delhi for establishment of Regional Institutes assumes significance. The consensus arrived at in the meeting was for the setting up of 14 Regional Institutes in North Eastern Region. This decision needs to be acted upon giving priority to those states which do not have institutes that are Regional in character while at the same time establishing these Regional Institutes spread across the region.</p>
Pg. 7	Shri Shrinivas Patil, Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim	<p><b>This time, the sports sector has been delinked from the NEC's purview. There has been a general consensus in the meeting that since sports is a way of life in the North Eastern Region, the matter would be placed in the governing council meeting of the NEC so that the sports sector is restored under the NEC's list of affairs.</b></p>
Para 29 Pg. 8	Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh	<p><b>For instance, my State, Arunachal Pradesh has a huge area but is struggling to tap its potential due to lack of human resource and technology. I would urge NEC to institute a detailed study as to how the massive area of my state can act as a boon for the region. The study must then translate into action by provision of adequate funding through various sources</b></p>
	Shri Biren Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur	<p>Sir, I would like to reiterate importance of Sports &amp; Youth Activities for the North East States and Manipur in particular. We all know the contribution made by our youths from Manipur and other North East States in the field of sports. Our sportspersons have brought laurels and glory to the Country by winning numerous medals at National and International games and sports. I am thankful to Hon'ble Prime Minister Modiji for setting up Sports University in Manipur.</p> <p><b>However, Expenditure Finance Committee or the Ministry of DoNER has omitted Sports, as a priority area of the NE states and excluded from funding under NESIDS as well as NEC. Sir, I seek the support of this august House and draw the attention of the Hon'ble Chairman to consider Sports as a priority area,</b></p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<p>where infrastructure development is required at block and field level to come up with future potential sports persons. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports budget is very limited and not sufficient to meet the requirement of all the States. Sir, our footballers and players need playground, and the support so that they can play and practice year round. Most of these fields get submerged during rainy season and not fit for practice for five to six months. I seek support of this house for continuation of Sports Sector under NEC funding</p>
<p>Para 4 Pg. 3</p>	<p>Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya</p>	<p>The year 2022 is an important year for Meghalaya and the country as a whole since the State will celebrate 50<sup>th</sup> year of statehood and India will also celebrate it's 75<sup>th</sup> year of Independence. To mark this important occasion, the State Government has envisioned putting in place certain milestones such as affordable health care, total sanitation, <b>quality education</b>, clean drinking water supply, etc. To be able to achieve these targets, we would required to assistance and expertise of the Central Government including the NEC.</p>
<p>Para 5 Pg. 3 &amp; 4</p>	<p>Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya</p>	<p><b>National Games 2022</b> : Another important event which scheduled in2022 in Meghalaya is the hosting of the National Games. To make this event success, several indoor and outdoor stadiums for hosting the various event will have to be put in place. We are grateful to the NEC for providing financial support of Rs29.65 crore for construction of two stadia in the State during 2017-18. However, additional infrastructure is required to be put in place to enable the State Government to host the event. The fund requirement for the creation of the stadia, games village, etc is estimated to be about Rs.1500.00 crore. The State Government has put forward a request to the Government of India for a special grant for this purpose which may be routed through the Ministry of DoNER and the NEC.</p>
<p>Para 7 Pg. 4</p>	<p>Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya</p>	<p>The State Government proposes to establish an Open School for children with special needs at Shillong. The open school will cater to the educational needs and</p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		provide vocational training for such children of Meghalaya and other NE States. I urge upon the NEC to take up the matter of setting up of the Open School with the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. The State Government will provide land for the purpose.
Para 20	Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland	It is a foregone conclusion that there is enormous and vast potential in the field of sports & games amongst the youth of the region. Even as we speak, sports persons from the region are bringing laurels to the country in various international events and competitions. I am happy to announce that we have laid the Foundation Stone of the Dr. T. Ao Regional Football Academy in memory of India's first Olympic Football Captain, at Dimapur, Nagaland on 8 <sup>th</sup> June, 2018 under the Department of Youth Resources and Sports. On behalf of the people of Nagaland, I express heartfelt gratitude to the NEC for the initial grant of Rs. 13 crores and pray that the Council will provide complete funding for the project. On these lines, I would further suggest that the NEC includes funding of sports infrastructure in order to tap into the potentials of our youth not only to provide opportunities but also to bring them into the mainstream.
Para 21	Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland	In the backdrop of political instability and insurgency movements, it is through sports and games that the youth of the region are able to have a sense of belonging to the country and contribute towards the nation building process. Therefore, it is imperative that the Centre must fund projects for sports infrastructure and game development initiatives. Also, the policy makers of the sports ministry may consider the fact that sports disciplines that are of potential to the mainland population may not be of potential scope in the region. Therefore, we have to focus on our strengths of sports disciplines that need good hand-eye coordination, have weight categories like combat sports, etc. Even schemes and funds for game

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		development activities at the grass root level needs to be framed and formulated as per the requirements and sensitivities of the region
		<p>The State is advantageously placed in terms of availability of human resource with an educated English speaking young population. However, it is also necessary for these youths to be imparted with the right skills in conjunction with the ground realities of the region so that they become employable or gainfully self-employed.</p> <p>It is in this context that the decision taken by the 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Committee in its meeting held on 6/10/2015 in New Delhi for establishment of Regional Institutes assumes significance. The consensus arrived at in the meeting was for the setting up of 14 Regional Institutes in North Eastern Region. This decision needs to be acted upon giving priority to those States which do not have institutes that are Regional in character while at the same time establishing these Regional Institutes spread across the region.</p> <p>I request the NEC to establish the following 3 (three) Regional Institutes in Nagaland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Regional Institute of Architecture &amp; Planning</li> <li>(ii) Institute of Music, Art &amp; Culture</li> <li>(iii) North East Institute of Skill Development</li> </ul>
Para 6 (viii) Pg. 7	Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura	<p>Setting up of new Iconic Institutes can take a lot of time but NEC can play a very important role by ensuring that students from the North-East are inspired to excel and be a part of Iconic Institutes across the country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Can NEC organize regular tours of students from all the North-Eastern states to visit the best IIM, IIT campuses across the country?</li> <li>○ Can my dear-colleagues from Assam and Meghalaya allow NEC to organize a one-week or a one-month program for best students from entire North-East region to come and study at IIM and IIT campuses in their states?</li> </ul> <p>On lines of students from Jammu and Kashmir visiting various parts of India, our NE states' students will be immensely benefited these measures. If these small but</p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		impactful measures are undertaken, we shall have several ' <b>Iconic Students</b> ' from each of the states committed to working for the development of the North East region.

## Sector: Science & Technology

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
Para 9	Shri Ganga Prasad, Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya	<p><b>Disaster Management</b> : North East Region is susceptible towards various types of natural disaster such as floods, landslides and earthquakes. The entire region falls under Seismic Zone V i.e, very high damage risk. Hence, the importance of effective and timely risk mitigation measures cannot be over-emphasized. The NEC should create a funding window for facilitating mitigation measures such as:</p> <p>Time-bound mandatory retrofitting for all lifeline buildings.</p> <p>Setting up of '<i>Retrofitting Clinic</i>' at the School of Technology, NEHU by the Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC), Government Agencies, approved private companies and other stakeholders.</p> <p>A Regional Institute for Disaster Management needs to be set up in the region linking with various agencies in this domain and for training all stakeholders including private citizens, relief &amp; rescue workers, communication personnel and police. The State of Meghalaya would be happy to take a lead in this.</p>
Pg. 3 & 4	Shri Kummanam Rajasekharan, Hon'ble Governor of Mizoram	<p>Digital connectivity is one of the biggest challenges facing the North East Region and the condition in Mizoram is far from satisfactory. High speed internet connectivity enables efficient fulfillment of business and social needs of the society through the exploitation and utilization of the basic infrastructure. We all know that under Digital India programme, the Central Government has taken massive initiatives for 'broadband to all' and 'Optical Fiber Network to every village'. The National Optical Fiber Network (NOFN), which is now known as "Bharat Net", has started way back in 2012 but till today the progress in my State is not traceable. The Central Government may have to work closer with State machinery as partner in this initiative, and NEC or Ministry of DoNER should coordinate with line Ministries in the Government of India vigorously.</p>
Pg. 2 & 3	Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Chief	<p>The NEC can fund some critical gaps, if necessary. For example in order to improve telecom network in the</p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
	<b>Minister of Assam</b>	region, we need fibre optic cable connectivity with Cox Bazar landing station in Bangladesh. This international gateway has been accessed by BSNL to provide initial connectivity up to Agartala. However, due to high rentals of this landing station, BSNL has not brought the bandwidth to Assam and other North-Eastern States. Although the region has a huge potential to become an ITES and IT hub, the region is crippled because of poor bandwidth and speed. Ministry of DoNER or NEC can consider supporting BSNL in payment of rentals for initial few years. As a result, the region will get the requisite high speed connectivity and bandwidth from Cox Bazar landing station to become an IT hub.
<b>Para 9 Pg. 5</b>	<b>Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya</b>	<b>Setting Up of a Technology Park in New Shillong :</b> The Meghalaya Information Technology Society plans to realize its vision of transforming the State into one of the most preferred and leading destinations for investments in highend technology & electronics industry in the NER. The vision/concept of the Technology Park is to promote entrepreneurship and technological innovation primarily in the ICT, ITeS and Electronics sectors by providing facilities which are self sustainable and an environment which is conducive for attracting investment, expertise and talent from high potential individuals and organizations thereby generating employment and contributing to the socio-economic development of the State and the region besides building 'Brand Shillong' as a preferred investment destination. Detailed action plan will be taken by the State to bring business/ anchor tenants to the tech park and to develop a self-sustenance plan. I, Therefore, urge NEC and Government of India to support this proposal.



## Sector: Information & Public Relations

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
Pg. 9	<b>Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh</b>	I would suggest Ministry of DoNER and NEC to initiate a program on documentation of traditional culture of various tribes of Arunachal Pradesh. I would also suggest to provide additional funds for development of modified roman scripts of indigenous tribes of all the 8 North Eastern States with concerned Ministries. This can then form part of school curriculum so that our children are taught about the rich culture of the state right from primary schools.
<b>Para 14</b>	<b>Shri Ganga Prasad, Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya</b>	The States of the North East often get deprived of the schemes and programmes of the Government of India due to lack of communication and awareness of such schemes and programmes. Therefore, NEC should henceforth act as an extension of various Ministries of the Government of India and bring out regular bulletins and circulars informing different State Governments about various opportunities and avenues which they can avail of from the central Government.
<b>Para 11</b>	<b>Shri Lal Thanhawla, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram</b>	We may at least emphasize on the first line of action, which I think is digital connectivity, which holds the key to communication in real time. Moreover, a concept which has gained currency in recent times is cultural connectivity. This is especially relevant for the North East. While the region itself is a cultural and ethnic mosaic, the cultural similarity and affinity with the South East Asian bloc is undeniable. This asset must also be utilized to the fullest.

## Sector: Evaluation & Monitoring

<b>Para &amp; Page Number of the Speech</b>	<b>Points raised by</b>	<b>Actionable Points</b>
<b>[1]</b>	<b>[2]</b>	<b>[3]</b>
<b>Para 14</b>	<b>Shri Ganga Prasad, Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya</b>	The NEC may also consider extending necessary technical assistance to the States in preparation of DPRs, effective coordination with various Central Ministries, gap funding in case of convergence of projects besides independent evaluation and monitoring.
<b>Para 15 Pg. 5</b>	<b>Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh</b>	My State is also focusing on monitoring the performance of the various important PM/CM flagship programs. We have developed and launched Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Dashboard which will monitor Key Performance Indicators of the districts in health, education, rural development and other key priority sectors. We will also be releasing rankings of the districts in the identified Key Performance Indicators. This will help us in promoting healthy competition amongst the districts and will lead to a new culture of challenge based funding of projects in the State. The Planning Department has also developed a Satellite Based Monitoring System by Geo-Tagging all developmental projects including NEC and NELCPR/NESIDS projects being implemented in the State
<b>Para 8 Pg. 4 &amp; 5</b>	<b>Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya</b>	Meghalaya is one of the seventeen States in the country which have been declared as Open Defecation Free (ODF). The other states of the North East which have been declared as ODF are Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Sikkim. The State of Meghalaya is now striving for achieving the status of ODF Plus and ODF Sustainability. Programmes and projects for effective management of solid and liquid waste in the villages through community approach, IEC and Capacity Building programmes on various aspects of waste management are being initiated by State Government so as to achieve ODF Plus and ODF Sustainability. The State Government is seeking the support of the Government of India under Swaach Bharat Mission to achieve this endeavour.

**Sector: General Issues (Planning Section as coordinating sector)**

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
Para 4 Pg. 6 & 7	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	My State Government has submitted a plan for additional package under BADP to fill in basic infrastructure in border areas. I would urge Hon'ble Home Minister Sh. Rajnath Singh ji to accord the approval to this additional package which will go a long way in improving the border infrastructure of the region.
Pg. 11 & 12	Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.), Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	I would urge NEC to strengthen its arms by setting up offices in my State and expand our role as an important think tank of the North Eastern Region. NEC must keep my State to bridge in the critical infrastructural gaps and to synergize the efforts of Central and State Government in ushering balanced development of the region. As I conclude, once again I thank the Hon'ble Chairman for having given me this opportunity to put forth my views. I look forward to a meaningful discussion during the meeting and I hope that our interaction and decision would help in enhancing the development aspect of the North Eastern Region.
Pg. 3 & 4	Prof. Jagdish Mukhi, Hon'ble Governor of Assam	The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has set the motto of our Government as <b><i>Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas</i></b> . To implement this motto we need to identify existing aspirations and channelize them to create a ripple effect for transforming Aspirational Districts. Similarly NEC may also take such initiative for other backward areas of North Eastern states for all round development of the region.
Page 2 & 3	Dr Najma Heptulla, Hon'ble Governor of Manipur	<b>I understand that all ongoing projects will be closed by March 2020 and new projects will be funded 100% by NEC from the year 2018-19 as Central Sector projects. I also understand that the approval of the Council is sought for Budget allocation of Rs. 1156 crores for the Year 2018-19 and thrust has been given for clearing committed liabilities of ongoing projects under different sectors of NEC. State Government are no more required to submit annual priority list of new projects for consideration of NEC. Sir, I had raised the issue on normative allocation of NE Budget to member NE States in the 66<sup>th</sup> Plenary as per socio-economic development needs and not as per criteria</b>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<p>of population or area for a balanced development. I understand that normative allocation of my State is 12%. I seek attention of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, NEC to provide funds not less than the normative allocation of my State for taking up new projects identified for the State and take up regional projects after detailed consultation with all member States for balance development and avoid concentration of resources on one or few States only. If no fund is provided for new projects than normative allocation has no meaning.</p> <p><b>My Chief Minister will elaborate more on the Annual Budget, however I am of the opinion that consultation process by NEC with States should continue for assessing the needs/demand of the people and for effective implementation of projects.</b></p>
Page 3 & 4	Dr Najma Heptulla, Hon'ble Governor of Manipur	<p>The North Eastern Council was established initially as an Advisory Body for securing a balanced development of the region under the Ministry of Home Affairs in 1972, which was transferred to Ministry of DoNER after establishment of a full fledged Ministry for Development of the North Eastern Region in 2001. The North Eastern Council as well as the Ministry for Development of North Eastern Region has contributed to the development of North Eastern Region. I understand that there has been a confusion and overlapping of role between M/o DoNER and North Eastern Council. With the re-positioning of NEC into a Council for conflict resolution, development planning and knowledge hub for the NER, there will be segregation of role of NEC and DoNER. I believe NEC will continue to take up inter-State projects which benefit more than two States. However, NEC's role as development planning and knowledge hub for NER should be clearly segregated from M/o DoNER and NITI Ayog, to avoid duplication and wastage of resources.</p> <p><b>Whatever planning process and strategic policy vision is developed for the NE Region by the NEC and its recommendation should be followed up with implementation strategy and budget allocation.</b></p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		With regard to the role of NEC in conflict resolution, I hope that the Council will deliver in resolving inter-State conflicts and common issues and problems existing within NER States through fruitful discussion and co-ordination.
Page 5	Dr Najma Heptulla, Hon'ble Governor of Manipur	<b>Regarding new projects sanctioned by NEC during 2017-18 and 2018-19, I endorse the view of my Chief Minister and other Members that State Government should be allowed to continue execution of all new projects sanctioned by NEC, which have been kept in abeyance by Ministry of DoNER and NEC. I request Hon'ble Chairman and Minister DoNER to take up the matter with Finance Ministry for enhancing the budget of NEC and re-allocate Rs4500 crores allocated to NEC for 2017-18 to 2019-2020 for adjusting liabilities of new projects already sanctioned by NEC during 2017-18 and 2018-19.</b>
Pg. 5	Shri Kummanam Rajasekharan, Hon'ble Governor of Mizoram	North Eastern Council is created to be a regional planning body for the North East Region to spearhead infrastructure development in the region. However, past funding patterns of the Centre for NEC has been very discouraging. Annual allocation of NEC and Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) has been stagnant at around 700 crores each for the last couple of years. Allocation for North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme and NEC New Scheme are equally disheartening. I would like to submit that Rs. 4500 crores earmarked for the new NEC schemes for the whole North Eastern States during 2017-18 to 2019-20 is going to be too less to have meaningful impact for the Region's Development. The earmarked fund includes Rs. 2357 crores for committed liabilities of ongoing projects, Rs. 1000 crores for North East Roads Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS), and Rs. 640 crores for NLCPR (Central) liabilities. There is no fund left for new project during the new Scheme period 2018-2020. It is highly doubtful that the North Eastern Region could become an 'engine of growth' with such a meager investment from the Centre. I hope that under the active and able leadership of Hon'ble Union Home Minister, we will be able to enhance budget of the

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
Pg. 1 & 2	Shri P.B. Acharya, Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland	North Eastern Council significantly. Since 1971, the North East Council as a forum has been a significant and effective platform for discussing and deliberating upon the development issues of the North East Region. The recent re-positioning of NEC into a Council for conflict resolution, development planning and knowledge hub is welcomed. However, the region is still lacking behind in terms of development in comparison to other states/ region of the Country. The region is richly endowed with natural resources and human resources. Yet these potentials are yet to be fully optimized. Hence, care should be taken not to reduce NEC to mere recommending body and a knowledge hub without necessary resources. It is in this context that Recommendations of EFC (Expenditure Finance Committee) for continuation of NEC Schemes till 2020 only needs re-examination. The NE States, particularly Nagaland, with meagre resources depend on the NEC and DoNER for assistance for implementation of important projects and programs which are outside the funding pattern of the Ministries of Government of India.
Pg. 7	Shri Shriniwas Patil, Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim	<b>An important issue that needs to be highlighted in today's forum is that the NEC needs to be provided with additional funds to meet its committed liabilities of the ongoing projects as well as to take up new projects, especially iconic projects and institutes proposed by the NEC in its proposal to Ministry of DoNER earlier.</b>
Pg. 7 & 8	Shri Shriniwas Patil, Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim	<b>Here, another major issue is being brought to the notice of the Governing Council that on 8<sup>th</sup> of May, 2018, the Secretary, NEC addressed a letter to all the eight Chief Secretaries of the North Eastern States. In the letter, it was stated that the Expenditure Finance Committee of Government of India has directed all fresh sanctions issued by NEC with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2017, be kept in abeyance till the ongoing NEC projects in the States are reviewed with a view to foreclose non-feasible projects. Thus, the unspent balances in the State already released by the NEC be</b>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<p>liquidated by utilizing in the ongoing projects for which were intended.</p> <p>The letter further adds that the State Governments are to ensure that further action on implementation of NEC projects sanctioned in 2017-18 are put on hold till further directions are issued.</p> <p>These directives have been issued by Government of India without the prior knowledge of the NEC Governing Council. The NE States have been caught off guard by these directives. The pertinent issue that who will bear the cost over runs of the projects is to be seriously pondered.</p> <p>In the above scenario, the State of Sikkim stands to lose around 42 (forty two) crores against 7 projects that have been sanctioned during this period. This issue was also discussed in the meeting with the Secretary, NEC and he has agreed to take up the matter for discussion with the Project Identification Committee shortly. During the last financial year, the allocation to the State of Sikkim was a miserly Rs. 31 (thirty one) crores for the NEC schemes. We hope that this year the allocation would be enhanced in view of our good performance.</p>
<p>Para 22 to 24 Pg. 7</p>	<p>Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh</p>	<p>I would like to bring to the notice of the Council members that very recently the North Eastern Council has issued an instruction to keep release of funds against all newly sanctioned projects on hold and it is also informed that there would be Project Identification committee meeting where some sanctioned and retained projects could be dropped.</p> <p>I would like to mention here that whatever projects have been retained by NEC during the year 2017-18 should be continued and sanctioned for the greater interest of the region. These projects were prioritized by the State on felt need basis and cancelling them without giving any opportunity to hear from the State will be unjustified.</p> <p>I would request Hon'ble Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh Ji to sort out the matters regarding holding up of</p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<p>projects sanctioned during the year 2017-18. I would like to inform that in many cases, implementing agencies have already awarded the works and most of the projects have already been started with progress in some cases of 30%-40%. Abrupt termination of these projects may invite legal complications</p>
<p><b>Para 26 Pg. 7</b></p>	<p><b>Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh</b></p>	<p>Further, since the minimum cost of 1 project under NEISIDS is Rs. 20 Crore, there hardly 4-5 projects that our state can take in a year due to limited funding available under the scheme. I would request Union Home Minister to enhance the budget of Ministry of DoNER so that the North Eastern region does not lag behind in development vis-à-vis other parts of the country</p>
<p><b>Para 27 &amp; 28 Pg. 7 &amp; 8</b></p>	<p><b>Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh</b></p>	<p>It has been more than 46 years since the inception of North Eastern Council. It is o doubt that NEC has played a crucial role in funding important development projects in the region. However, time has now come that NEC expands its role from a mere funding agency to act as a premier think tank body of the North Eastern region which guides the North eastern States in bringing sustainable development in the region.</p> <p>To achieve the same, there is a need to bring in domain experts in NEC who focus on developing clear cut roadmap for ushering massive investments in the region. Not only does North Eastern region requires adequate funds, but it also requires technical experts who suggest ways to bridge the massive divide between North Eastern region and rest of India.</p>
<p><b>Para 30 Pg. 8</b></p>	<p><b>Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh</b></p>	<p>NEC must also find ways to ways to showcase best practices of the states in the NER which can be replicated so that we all benefit from this common forum. Recently NITI Aayog has formed NITI forum for North east to address the regional imbalance in the North Eastern region. I would urge NEC to use this opportunity to emerge as a Planning Body of the North eastern Region by tying up with NITI Aayog.</p>
<p><b>Para 31 Pg. 8</b></p>	<p><b>Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister</b></p>	<p><b>I would also like to request Hon'ble Chairman to review the decision to remove the sectors like; Sports,</b></p>



Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
	of Arunachal Pradesh	IFC & WSM, Primary and Secondary Education from North Eastern Council. These sectors are very important for the region where NEC can play meaningful role. This may be reviewed in the interest of NE region.
Pg. 5 & 6	Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam	Respected Chairman, Assam has faced over three decades of insurgency like other States in the region. The security scenario has however gradually improved through a strategy of determined counter-insurgency operations coupled with dialogue with insurgents to make them give up violence and tread the path of peace and development. However, challenges still remain. The militants operating in one State find shelter in other State and cross over to neighbouring countries. There is a need for inter-state as well as international cooperation. There is also expansion of Islamic radical forces in the region. All North-Eastern States must come together to effectively meet the challenges.
Pg. 6	Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam	Respected Chairman, we in the North-Eastern region may belong to separate States but we have common goal and destiny. We have lived harmoniously in the region for many centuries. Sometimes some problems do arise between various groups of people. Sometimes the problems assume inter-state character. However, all Chief Ministers and State Governments have acted promptly to address these issues. Assam shares borders with all North East States except Sikkim. I am thankful to Chief Ministers of Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh for their cooperation so that we could address the minor disputes along inter-State borders amicably. Most inter State border disputes in the region are being heard in the Supreme Court. Hence, I am not sure what role NEC can have in these cases. However, NEC can play an important role in chalking out programmes for promoting brotherhood amongst communities living on both sides of inter-State borders.
Pg. 8	Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam	Respected Chairman, NEC funds development projects in the States. However, over the years, the allocation for the States has been reduced and the procedure of sanction of projects and release of funds is tedious and

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		time consuming. This requires to be addressed immediately. We request NEC to make sanction of the projects speedier. I further suggest that NEC should release fund in two instalments in lump sum for a year instead of scheme wise release.
	Shri N. Biren Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur	The recent decisions of the Ministry of DoNER and the NEC in withholding the schemes already approved by NEC since April 2017, is one of the major concerns. In fact, the NEC has sanctioned 29 new projects to Manipur during 2017-18 and 2018-19 for an amount of Rs. 186.96 crores and released Rs. 38.34 crores towards first instalment. The State Government has made public announcement of these projects and all the projects are in different stages of execution. Keeping on hold of all these projects at this stage will have adverse impact on the image of both Central and State Governments. It may be appreciated that the State Government also does not have enough resources to continue these projects. Sir, I would like to draw the attention of Hon'ble Minister DoNER, Dr Jitendraji and Shri Naveen Verma, Secretary, DoNER, to whom I have written letters requesting to review the decision. I once again appeal through this august House to allow State Government to continue execution of these projects and provide budget provision for these ongoing projects. Sir, I will appreciate if necessary clarification on budget provision for these ongoing projects is made.
	Shri N. Biren Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur	There is need to give priority for completion of ongoing projects and take up new projects in core thrust area. I understand that NEC has been allocated Rs. 4,500 crores for the years 2017-2020. However, out of this allocation, the entire amount has been adjusted against committed liabilities under NEC and NLCPR, North East Road Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS), leaving a negative balance for taking up any new scheme. The primary mandate of the NEC is defeated if new schemes are not approved. I suggest that NEC budget provision for 2017-18 to 2019-2020 may be enhanced to Rs. 7500 crores so as to adjust liabilities of new projects already sanctioned by NEC

<b>Para &amp; Page Number of the Speech</b>	<b>Points raised by</b>	<b>Actionable Points</b>
<b>[1]</b>	<b>[2]</b>	<b>[3]</b>
		<b>and to allow sanction of new schemes for 2018-19.</b>
	<b>Shri N. Biren Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur</b>	<b>Sir, for new projects under NEC, I, understand that Chief Secretary is a member of the Project Identification Committee for identified sectors. However, in the sectors already identified by Expenditure Finance Committee and M/DoNER, some important priority areas require critical gap funding. These left out sector include Water supply, Sports and Youth activity sectors. I would like to seek support of this august House to include and continue funding of water supply and Sports sectors under NEC.</b>
	<b>Shri N. Biren Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur</b>	<b>Sir, I would like to place on record my appreciation for Ministry of DoNER and Dr. Jitendraji's efforts for launching Hill Area Development Programme. This will provide the much needed location specific solutions to address crucial problems of the hills. Topographic and need based budgeting is crucial for development of backward areas. We have constituted the State Level Sanctioning Committee and District Level Committees in compliance of the guidelines and we are expecting the programme to start soon. I seek the support of Ministry of DoNER for extension of this programme to Chandel District, which is an aspirational district of Manipur, as identified by NITI Aayog as the most backward district of state.</b>
<b>Para 1 Pg. 1 &amp; 2</b>	<b>Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya</b>	<b>The State of Meghalaya, like the other North Eastern States, still needs to overcome the challenges of development gaps and disparities across all sectors. The North Eastern Council, as per the mandate, has been instrumental in supplementing the developmental initiatives of the State of the North Eastern Region. The NEC Budget for 2018-19 is Rs. 1134.00 crores out of which 60% of the budget i.e. Rs.681.00 crores is set aside for funding projects proposed by the States, as against Rs.880.00 crores which was allocated for the states during 2017-18 out of the budget of Rs..925.00 crores. The decline in NEC's budget allocation for development programmes does not augur well for the region. Without suitable financial backing from the NEC, it will be difficult for the N.E.States to reach the desired level of growth and</b>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		development as envisioned in the NER Vision 2020. The Government of India, therefore, will require to review the fund allocation to the North Eastern Council by raising the annual budget size to at least Rs.2000.00 crore, so as to enable the NEC to fulfil its mandate for ensuring sustainable growth and development in the North East.
Para 2 Pg. 2	Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya	An important issue which I would like to flag before this august gathering relates to the recent decision of the NEC to concentrate on specific sectors like bamboo, piggery, regional tourism, higher education, tertiary healthcare, telemedicine and Science & Technology. Further, the Ministry of DoNER has also decided to wind up the Non Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) which replaced by the North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) where funding for important infrastructure is also extremely limited. These recent decisions on the part of the Ministry of DoNER and the NEC will have a dampening effect on the socio-economic development of the NE States as investments in the crucial sectors such as Human Resource Development and Employment, Power, Transport and Communication Sector will be affected. It would be impossible for the resource in-elastic States of the NE Region to be able to take up key infrastructure projects on their own.
Para 3 Pg. 2 & 3	Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya	From the recent communications received from the Ministry of DoNER and the NEC, there is very likelihood that the NEC will withdraw the sanctions to schemes and projects which were accorded during 2017-18. Further, it is also unlikely that the NEC will convey its approval to the important scheme and projects which have been retained in the preceding years. These decisions of the Ministry of DoNER and the NEC has led to a sense of disquiet amongst the NE States and has disheartened the State Governments who have spent considerable time, effort and money in the preparation of the DPRs for these projects. In the spirit of the federal structure, any important decision on change of approach and guidelines must be taken at the Plenary Session of the North Eastern Council. Therefore, Plenary pending any further decision which

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		be decided in the Plenary Session for any modification of guidelines or changed approach, I would urge upon the Ministry of DoNER and the NEC to review their recent decisions and to continue providing g financial assistance to the developmental programmes of the States, as has been done in the past. Delay in processing for sanctioning and implementation will slow down the pace of investment and development which will affect the State and the region as a whole.
Para 4	Shri Lal Thanhawla, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram	In this regard, I would like to submit that Rs. 4500 crores earmarked for the new NEC scheme for the whole north eastern States during 2017-18 to 2019-20 is going to be too less to have meaningful impact for the Region's Development. The earmarked fund includes Rs. 2357 crores for committed liabilities for ongoing projects, Rs. 1000 crores for NERSDS, and Rs. 640 crores for NLCPR (C) liabilities. There is no fund left for new project during the new Scheme period. It is highly doubtful that the North Eastern Region can be made to be an 'engine of growth' as the Hon'ble Prime Minister has envisioned. We will have to significantly enhance funds allocated to the NEC, so as to have meaningful impact for the region's development.
Para 5	Shri Lal Thanhawla, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram	Moreover, North Eastern States are also asked to put on hold project sanctioned during 2017-18 as the new scheme effective period is scheduled from 2017-18. We have 12 projects sanctioned during 2017-18 and all these projects have already been processed for implementation or work have already been started, and the State will not be in a position to hold them back anymore. NEC and Ministry of DoNER were requested to re-consider the matter and allow the State to process the projects as sanctioned. If we are not allowed to continue, it was apprehended that there may be serious implication in terms of cost, credibility of the Central Government, and even legal issues. We strongly recommend immediate continuation of these projects to solve the problem being faced by all the North Eastern States.
Para 6	Shri Lal Thanhawla,	We welcome the proposal to reposition NEC into a

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
	<p><b>Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram</b></p>	<p>Council for conflict resolution. In this regard, the Council should first be appropriately equipped to do such important task and also appropriate platform would need to be established to share and decide important issues at appropriate levels with concern Ministries in the Government of India.</p>
<p><b>Para 4 to 6</b></p>	<p><b>Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland</b></p>	<p><b>The need to strengthen the NEC for overall regional development cannot be over emphasized and the objectives of setting up the Council can be best achieved only by providing sufficient funds and upholding the Council in its endeavours. May I suggest to the Government of India to ensure that henceforth, the Budget of the NEC be withdrawn and the funds allotted to the NEC be utilised basically for the NEC works and not for clearing the liabilities of the Government bodies and agencies of the region. In fact, it may be pointed out that there has been sufficient accumulation of funds under 10% due for allocation which may be allotted to the Ministry of DoNER both for clearing of the liabilities and taking up new schemes.</b></p> <p>I would also like to mention here that the present system of priority lists and retention of projects sanctioned/ approved causes delay and enormous energy, time and resources are wasted chasing these projects thereby delaying development. There is much ambiguity with regard to what will be approved that the States are not able to plan their own projects and works. Most North Eastern States are resource-starved and it is vital that funds through NEC are properly accounted for. In addition, projects that are retained and put on priority lists raise the expectations of the people. However, delay in their approval creates a negative impact in the minds of the people for which the State Governments and the political leadership often end up in an uncomfortable position. This further contributes towards deficits in confidence of the people upon the Central Government.</p> <p>Another challenge is that there are multiple bodies and agencies like the NEC, DoNER and the recently created North East Forum. There is a need for clarity on the roles between these bodies and budgets need to be</p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<p>allocated to the States and flexibility should be allowed for the State governments for utilization of these allocations.</p> <p><b>The NEC as a statutory body can effectively achieve its goals of widespread development of the region when administrative hurdles and unnecessary roadblocks are removed so that fast-paced development positively impacts the lives of the population. This will surely transform the region into a hub of bustling trade and commerce and elevate the region as the country's gateway to the South East Asian countries under the Government of India's Act East Policy. I would therefore appeal to all the distinguished participants gathered here today to join hands together and work tirelessly towards this end so that the people look up to the GoI, the NEC and the respective State Governments in positive light.</b></p>
Para 7	Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland	<p>NEC as a Council for conflict resolution, development planning and knowledge hub may enable States and implementing agencies to properly plan and execute projects, promote research and innovations and provide strategic policy vision for the region. Since inception, NEC has been doing a commendable job in the development of the NE Region. However, in comparison with other States and regions of the country, we still have a long way to go for which I would encourage the Council to continue to play a proactive role in the march towards all round development</p>
Para 29 & 30	Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland	<p><b>The decision of the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) to put on hold all the new projects sanctioned from April 2017 onwards may not prove beneficial in the long run since the NE States, particularly Nagaland, with meager resources look to the NEC and DoNER to come to supplement our resources to implement important projects and programmes. The projects sanctioned during 2017-18 were meticulously selected by the State as priority and were also retained and sanctioned by NEC after thorough scrutiny. The funds released by NEC for these projects have been spent and Utilization Certificate submitted</b></p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<p>to NEC and works for some projects already started. If the projects are to be put on hold, it will eventually lead to cost escalation which is not admissible under NEC guidelines. Further, it may attract litigation from various quarters.</p> <p>Taking this opportunity, I want to highlight some issues of concern, which are common to almost all the NE States.</p> <p>a. <b>Conversion of present scheme of funding for NE Region from 90:10% to full 100%:</b> On the recommendation of the Sub Group of Chief Ministers on rationalization of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), all CSS for the north east region states has been converted to 90:10%. We are happy that the need of the region have been met partially making the NESIDS to full 100% funding. We are grateful to Government of India for recognizing the stressed revenue situations common to almost all the North Eastern States. In such a financial environment it has become very difficult to plan our developmental interventions with meager fund after allocating salaries &amp; pension requirements of our States. Against such a background, to meet the State Share of 10% of the Central Share to various CSS becomes an uphill task. The ultimate casualty is poor implementation of CSS, on account of our inability to release the State Share. We urge NEC to recommend making all CSS fully 100% from the current financial year 2018-19 for the northeastern States for a period to be decided by Government of India.</p> <p>b. <b>Inclusion of all the North Eastern States having predominant tribal population for funding under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP):</b> Presently some NE States having predominant tribal population are outside the purview as the fund provided under TSP are in proportion to the ST population of each State. The other NE states having almost 100% are left out. The objective of the TSP is to bridge the gap between the Scheduled Tribe</p>



Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<p>(ST) population and others by accelerating the development of STs by securing to them through :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Human Resource development by enhancing access to education &amp; health services.</li> <li>ii. Enhancing quality of life by providing basic amenities etc.</li> <li>iii. Reduction in poverty &amp; unemployment.</li> <li>iv. Enhance capacities to avail opportunities at par with other areas; and</li> <li>v. Protection against exploitation &amp; oppression.</li> </ol> <p>The objectives set out holds good for the other left out States as they are also tribals who suffer similar deprivations. We urge the NEC to make a recommendation to the NITI Aayog to expand and amend the existing guidelines to include all the NE States (presently 22 States &amp; 2 UTs reportedly eligible).</p>
<p><b>Para 31</b></p>	<p><b>Shri Neiphu Rio, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland</b></p>	<p>I also suggest that NEC Plenary be held in all the NE States on a rotational basis to let every State avail the opportunity to host the meeting</p>
<p><b>Para 6 (i) Pg. 3</b></p>	<p><b>Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura</b></p>	<p><b>(i) Annual Plan 2018-19</b></p> <p>A landmark decision has been taken by the Central Government for the introduction North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) from 2017-18 with 100% funding from the Central Government to fill up the gaps in the creation of infrastructure in specified sectors till March 2020.</p> <p>Various State Governments in the North East are often not able to fully utilize the benefits under Central Government schemes due to the financial constraint with regards to inability to spend the mandated 10% portion under the 90:10 funded Central Government schemes.</p> <p>It will be extremely helpful if the NEC can act as a catalyst by funding the 10% portion for various projects and Schemes for State Governments. In this manner, State Governments will be able to ensure effective implementation of Central Government programs in</p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		North-East India.
Para 6 (ii) Pg. 3 & 4	Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura	<p><b>(ii) Recommendation of the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) for the continuation of NEC schemes till 2020 and Revised NEC Guideline in view of the recommendation of EFC</b></p> <p>Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) has recommended Rs. 4500 crores which include Rs. 1000 crores for the projects under North East Sector Road Development Scheme (NESRDS) and Rs. 640 crores for Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) projects. EFC has also asked for the liquidation of NEC liabilities of Rs. 2357 crores on a priority basis.</p> <p>Liabilities for the ongoing projects of Tripura being the lowest among the North Eastern States, I would request <b>State Specific Projects for Tripura (retained by NEC) may be sanctioned early</b> for furthering growth prospects in the state.</p>
Para 6 (iv) Pg. 5	Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura	<p><b>(iv) Transformation of 14 Aspirational Districts in NER</b></p> <p>Dhalai District of Tripura has been identified under 'Transformation of Aspirational Districts' programme. The Central Government is taking proactive measures to track the progress in these Aspirational Districts including the appointment of Prabhari Officers for each of these districts and creation of a real-time dashboard among others.</p> <p>State Government, especially in the North Eastern States can play a proactive contributory role in ensuring effective development of these districts by ensuring coordination with various Departments of the State Governments. <b>A coordination mechanism in this regard may be developed for involving the State Government</b> for holistic development of Aspiration Districts.</p>
Para 6 (v) Pg. 5	Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura	<p><b>(v) 10% Gross Budgetary Support</b></p> <p>All Central Ministries and Departments should consider sharing their targets and Vision for the NE Region and spell out modalities for spending the stipulated 10% of their budget for the NER.</p>

Para & Page Number of the Speech	Points raised by	Actionable Points
[1]	[2]	[3]
		<p>It is necessary that there is information symmetry with regards to the status of funds being utilized by various Central Ministries and Departments for the North East Region.</p> <p>NEC may utilize its available expertise to create a Status Reporting Framework (an illustrative dashboard) by collecting necessary information on a timely basis from various Ministries with regards to the status of expenditure incurred by them. This shall help the public representatives from taking up these issues with respective Ministries in the Central Government in order to ensure the effective utilization of funds.</p>
<p>Para 6 (ix) Pg. 7</p>	<p>Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura</p>	<p><b>(ix) Completing Long Pending Projects in the NEC</b></p> <p>I have already covered this subject in my inputs for road projects and Aspirational Districts' points. To add to the same, NEC can play a pivotal role by facilitating <b>Dedicated Ministry Discussions for public representatives of the North-East region</b>. NEC can organize monthly meetings where Agriculture, Industry, IT ministers from across the NE States can meet and discuss issues which can be raised with the Union Ministers of the same Departments via video conferencing or by meeting them in person. This can lead to imbibing the principles of cooperative federalism in a more cohesive manner.</p>
<p>Para 6 (xii) Pg. 8</p>	<p>Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura</p>	<p><b>(xii) NEC as a Council for Conflict Resolution</b></p> <p>NER Vision 2020 was prepared ten years ago. Now, NEC may evaluate the plan &amp; programme decided in this Vision Document and how much progress has been achieved with regards to the same.</p> <p>In alignment with the Vision Document of NITI Aayog, NEC may prepare the <b>Vision Document for North East India to achieve the targets under New India by 2022 vision</b> of the Central Government.</p>

# **PART – C**

## **Programme of the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of the North Eastern Council**

**PART-C**  
**67<sup>th</sup> NEC Plenary**  
**(18<sup>th</sup> Meeting as Statutory Regional Planning Body for the NER)**  
**State Convention Centre, Shillong**  
**Minute -to-Minute Programme**

9 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	
1.00 P.M to 2.00 P.M	Arrival and Lunch
2.00 P.M. to 2.05 P.M	Hon'ble HM and Chairman NEC arrives, the 67 <sup>th</sup> NEC Plenary begins and Secretary, NEC, welcomes Hon'ble HM, Hon'ble MoS (IC) DoNER, Hon'ble Members of NEC and other Delegates.
2.05 P.M. to 2.15 P.M	Opening Remarks by Hon'ble MoS (IC) DoNER and Vice Chairman NEC
2.15 P.M. to 2.25 P.M	Inaugural Address by Hon'ble HM and Chairman NEC
2.25 P.M to 3.35 P.M	Speeches by Honourable members
3.35 PM to 3:40 PM	Confirmation of the Proceedings of the 66 <sup>th</sup> Plenary of NEC held on 29 <sup>th</sup> May, 2017 & Tabling of the Action Taken Report of the 66 <sup>th</sup> Plenary Agenda points
3.40 P.M to 3:50 P.M	Report by Secretary, NEC including report on NEC Budget till March, 2020
3.50 P.M to 4.30 P.M	Approval of the Cabinet for continuation of NEC Schemes till March, 2020 & Revision of NEC Guidelines <b>Remarks and discussions by Hon'ble Members, NEC</b>
4.30 P.M. to 5.00 P.M	Transformation of the 14 Aspirational Districts / Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (GSA- 1&2) in NER <b>Presentation by Secretary, MoRD</b> <b>Remarks and discussions by Hon'ble Members, NEC</b>
5:00 PM to 5:15 PM	Strengthening Livelihood Programmes in NE Region <b>Presentation by Secretary, MoRD</b> <b>Remarks and discussions by Hon'ble Members, NEC</b>
5.15 P.M. to 5.35 P.M	Discussion on Water resource Management in NER <b>Presentation by Jt. Secretary, DoNER</b> <b>Remarks and discussions by Hon'ble Members, NEC</b>
5:35 PM to 5:50 PM	Catchment Area Treatment in NER through afforestation etc <b>Presentation by DG, Forest, MOEF</b> <b>Remarks and discussions by Hon'ble Members, NEC</b>
5.50 P.M to 6.05 P.M	Bamboo Mission in NER and Science & technology Interventions in NER (STINER) <b>Presentation by Jt Secretary, DoNER</b> <b>Remarks and discussions by Hon'ble Members, NEC</b>
6.05 P.M. to 6.20 P.M	Doubling Farmers Income by 2022 in NER <b>Presentation by Jt. Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture</b> <b>Remarks and discussions by Hon'ble Members, NEC</b>
6.20 P.M to 6.50 P.M	Road Connectivity in the NER <b>Presentation by MD, NHIDCL</b> <b>Remarks and discussions by Hon'ble Members, NEC</b>
6.50 P.M to 7.00 P.M	Concluding Remarks
7.00 PM to 8.00 PM	<b>BREAK</b>
8.00 P.M. to 8.30 P.M	<b>CULTURAL PROGRAMME</b>
8.30 P.M	<b>DINNER</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	
9.30 AM to 9.40 AM	Screening of NEC Documentary
9.40 A.M to 10.05 A.M	Presentation on 'POSHAN ABHIYAAN' by Joint Secretary, Ministry of W & CD <b>Presentation by Jt Secretary, WCD</b> <b>Remarks and discussions by Hon'ble Members, NEC</b>
10.05 A.M to 10.30 A.M	Presentation on 'AYUSHMAN BHARAT' by M/o of Health & Family Welfare <b>Presentation by Addl. Secretary, MoHFW</b> <b>Remarks and discussions by Hon'ble Members, NEC</b>
10.30 AM to 10:40 PM	i) Discussion on NEC as a Council for conflict resolution <b>Remarks and discussions by Hon'ble Members, NEC</b>
10:50 PM to 12:30 PM	ii) Discussion on Security related matters pertaining to North Eastern States <b>Remarks and discussions by Hon'ble Members, NEC</b>
12:30 PM to 1:00 PM	Valedictory Address by Hon'ble Chairman NEC followed by Vote of thanks
1:00 PM to 2.00 PM	Lunch and Departure

# **PART – D**

## **ANNEXURES**



**67<sup>th</sup> PLENARY OF THE  
NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL  
(9<sup>TH</sup> & 10<sup>TH</sup> July, 2018)**

**ADDRESS OF  
SHRI RAJNATH SINGH  
HON'BLE HOME MINISTER  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

On

**9<sup>th</sup> July, 2018**

At the

**STATE CONVENTION CENTRE,  
HOTEL PINEWOOD,  
SHILLONG**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**HON'BLE HOME MINISTER, SHRI RAJNATH SINGH**  
**ADDRESS AT THE 67<sup>th</sup> PLENARY SESSION OF THE NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL ON**  
**9<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2018**

Honourable Minister of State, Ministry of the Development of the North Eastern Region, Honourable Governors and Chief Ministers of all the eight North Eastern States, distinguished invitees. I take this opportunity to welcome all of you to this 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of the North Eastern Council. At the outset, I would like to place on record my deep appreciation to all the Members of the Council for their tireless efforts, dedication and determination to see that the eight North Eastern States of our country not only progress economically but also socially and culturally.

I am a great admirer of the people of the North East for their bravery, their strong sense of pride in themselves and their unique culture. The freedom fighters, veteran parliamentarians, outstanding administrators and intellectuals from the Region have made and are making remarkable contributions to building a modern India. The Government of India is committed to ensure that the people of the North East have their rightful honour, dignity and pride of place. I know that India cannot be happy if our brothers and sisters of the North East are unhappy. India cannot be great unless our brothers and sisters residing in the North East share this sense of greatness.

Gandhiji's assertion that "True 'Bharat' is to be found not in its few cities, but in its seven hundred thousand villages" is true even today in its spirit. The development of the small villages and towns in every North Eastern States is one of those efforts towards the dream of "True Bharat". In the same manner, we cannot afford a situation of rapid development in only some parts of the country while there is slow or negligible development in other parts. In his address to the 65<sup>th</sup> Plenary of this Council on 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2016, the Honourable Prime Minister had articulated, "*If the western region of the country can develop, if other regions of the country can develop, I see no reason why the North East region of the country cannot develop. I am also convinced that India can move forward if all the regions develop including the North East region.*" The NEC is committed to help realise this vision of equal development.

This Government is taking keen interest in developing the Region not only for it to self sustain but also to act as a link with the South East Asian countries. The Act East Policy has placed emphasis on India-ASEAN cooperation in our domestic agenda in sectors such as infrastructure, manufacturing, trade, skills, urban renewal, smart cities, and 'make in India'. Connectivity projects, cooperation in space, S&T and people-to-people exchanges could become a springboard for regional integration and prosperity. In May this year, the Minister for External Affairs (EAM) chaired an Interactive Session with Chief Ministers of North Eastern States on India's Act East Policy. The meeting deliberated on the North Eastern



region's intra-regional and sub-regional surface and air linkages, focusing on seamless connectivity with its contiguous neighbourhood. Continued development of relevant infrastructure both within the state and at international borders was also discussed with a view to enhancing trade, investment, tourism and people-to-people ties. This forum can deliberate on the roadmap towards realising the objectives of the Government's Act East Policy.

In order to provide a platform to identify various constraints on the way of accelerated, inclusive and sustainable economic growth in the North East Region of the country and to recommend suitable interventions for addressing identified constraints, the Government has set up the NITI Forum for the North East. I am happy to note that the first round of the discussion of the Forum was held on the 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2018. The suggestions of this Forum have been made available to all concerned Departments for examination and consideration. I request the Forum to meet on a regular basis.

The region suffers from lack of adequate corporate funding. Keeping in mind the low industrial base of the Region, the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister has, in March 2018, approved the North East Industrial Development Scheme (NEIDS), 2017 with financial outlay of Rs.3000 crores upto March, 2020. Government will provide necessary allocations for remaining period of scheme after assessment before March 2020. NEIDS is a combination of the incentives covered under the earlier two schemes with a much larger outlay. This newly introduced scheme shall promote industrialization in the States of the North Eastern Region and will boost employment and income generation. I urge upon the entrepreneurs to take this opportunity and set up industrial units and generate the much needed employment. Perhaps this Plenary can act as a facilitator.

Agriculture in the North East is characterised by small and fragmented holdings and high dependence on the monsoon rains. The nature of terrain of the Region posed additional issues. Again the uncertainty of prices (both input and output) and markets, coupled with adverse climate change has led to farmers' indebtedness and distress. In spite of the apparent adversities, this Government is committed to doubling farmer's income by 2022 and for this to happen the Government has increased the budgetary allocation of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare Ministry in the budget 2018-19 to Rs 58,080 crore from 51,576 crore in 2017-18. To achieve this ambitious objective, the Government is encouraging to adopt the 'multi-dimensional seven-point' strategy suggested by our Hon'ble Prime Minister, of which (i) promotion of value addition through food processing, and (ii) promotion of allied activities such as Dairy-Animal husbandry, Poultry, Bee-keeping, Har Medh Par Pedh, Horticulture, and Fisheries are particularly relevant to the NE Region. I hope this Plenary will discuss on these strategies and formulate programmes to ensure that farmer's income is doubled and is sustained.

Along with many initiatives launched to raising the living standards of its citizens and ensuring inclusive growth for all – *Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas*, the Hon'ble Prime Minister in January 2018 launched the 'Transformation of Aspirational Districts' programme which aims to quickly and effectively transform some of the most underdeveloped districts of the country. As you are aware, the broad contours of the programme are Convergence (of Central & State Schemes), Collaboration (of Central, State level 'Prabhari' Officers & District Collectors), and Competition among districts driven by a Mass Movement or a *Jan Andolan*. With States as the main drivers, this program will focus on the strength of each district, identify low-hanging fruits for immediate improvement, measure progress, and rank districts. I hope that this Forum will deliberate on strategies to transform the 14 identified Districts of the North East as leading examples for others to emulate.

This Government has initiated the Startup India flagship initiative on 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 to build a strong eco-system for nurturing innovation and startups in the country which will drive economic growth and generate large scale employment opportunities. The Government through this initiative aims to empower startups to grow through innovation and design. In his address to the 65<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting of this Council, the Honourable Prime Minister had stated, *"The North Eastern Council should also consider focussing on issues in emerging areas of livelihood, entrepreneurship, venture funds, start-ups and skill development."* I am happy to inform that recently the Ministry of DONER had recently launched the North East Venture Capital Fund through the North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Limited (NEDFi) with a corpus of Rs 100 crore which the entrepreneurs of the Region can access. There are ample opportunities for the youth of the Region to take up economic activities in the field of tourism, waste management, medial healthcare, handloom and handicrafts and agro products. I urge this Forum to deliberate on the ways forward by which the Region's enormous potential for start-ups can be tapped.

After the creation of North Eastern Council under NEC Act, 1971, there is no Zonal Council for North Eastern States. The States of Assam, Manipur, Tripura and Meghalaya which were part of Eastern Zonal Council were deleted from the purview of Eastern Zonal Council. As such, there is no forum to discuss issues such as boundary disputes, drug trafficking, smuggling of arms and ammunition, etc. which are the items discussed in the other Zonal Councils. It is felt that there is a need for a forum to address inter-state internal security related issues including boundary disputes, narcotics and arms trafficking, common approaches for tackling terrorism, militancy, etc. While the Ministry of DoNER is focusing on its coordination role in development matters, the Ministry of Home Affairs is primarily focused upon the security related issues. The NEC, having the Governors and Chief Ministers of the North Eastern States as its members, can provide a common forum for discussing the two aspects in a comprehensive manner in the presence of top functionaries of two Union Ministries. The Cabinet recently approved the proposal of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) for the nomination of the Union Home Minister as ex-officio

Chairman of North Eastern Council (NEC) and the Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of DoNER as Vice Chairman of the Council. I request this Forum to deliberate on pressing security related issues of the NE states.

Communities are a strength of this Region. North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project (NERCORMP), a community based project of the NEC has been able to leverage this inherent strength for designing sustainable livelihoods interventions to deal with changing rural scenarios in the NE Region and improve the lot of more than one lakh rural households. With a wealth of experience gathered over almost two decades of working in this sector, NERCORMP can serve as a Centre of Excellence for Livelihoods. It can coordinate with various Ministries of the Central Government and engage with State Governments, District Councils and non-government bodies for improving grassroots planning in the backward areas of the Region and for facilitating exchange of ideas and dissemination of the best practices of various Livelihood Programmes to a wider audience. I request this Forum to deliberate on how to leverage NERCORMP to improve Livelihoods in the NE Region.

Recently, the Cabinet had approved the extension of the Schemes of the NEC beyond March 2017 till March 2020. The approval comes with a direction to focus the NEC's intervention in specific areas and to ensure convergence with schemes of other Ministries of the Central Government. The financial package of Rs 4500 crores for the three years 2017-18 to 2019-20 was approved with a window for NEC to receive additional infusion of funds during 2018-19 depending on availability of resources, performance of the scheme and utilization of funds. Therefore, NEC will have to ensure maximum utilization of existing funds for completion of ongoing schemes in order to enable it to approach the Ministry of Finance for additional funds during 2018-19. The third party evaluation of the NEC carried out by IIM Shillong had indicated that large amount of NEC funds were lying in the states in the form of unspent balances. This has affected the smooth implementation of NEC projects. I urge the Forum to deliberate on ways and means to expedite long pending projects of the NEC so that additional funds can be sought from the Ministry of Finance.

In all our developmental efforts, the participation of the civil society and people at large is crucial. They should be the partners of social and economic change. One such partnership is through social audit. Social audit not only provides information on how funds spent but most crucially it enables people's participation in the planning of developmental activities and also enables course correction as projects and schemes roll on. Another means by which the wider public can participate in holding the executive accountable is monitoring of public programmes through the use of technology. I am happy to note that through the use of remote sensing and satellite imagery, NEC has partnered with the North Eastern Space Application Centre (NESAC) and developed a 'Projects Monitoring' portal and

a mobile application where stakeholders can monitor progress of capital works funded by the NEC. Let civil society become part of the system.

Before I take my seat, I sincerely thank everyone that I can be in your midst and share my thoughts. We have reasons to be optimistic and we should not be hesitant in constantly making course corrections to achieve more development for the Region.

Thank you.



**67<sup>th</sup> PLENARY OF THE  
NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL  
(9<sup>TH</sup> & 10<sup>TH</sup> July, 2018)**

**ADDRESS OF  
DR. JITENDRA SINGH  
HON'BLE MINISTER OF STATE (I/C)  
MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION**

On

**9<sup>th</sup> July, 2018**

**At the  
STATE CONVENTION CENTRE,  
HOTEL PINWOOD,  
SHILLONG**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**Address of the Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Development  
of the North Eastern Region to the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session of North  
Eastern Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 at the State  
Convention Centre, Pinewood Hotel, Shillong**

- Hon'ble Union Home Minister, Hon'ble Governors and Chief Ministers of North Eastern States, Hon'ble Members, NEC and distinguished invitees.
- I welcome you all today for the 67<sup>th</sup> NEC Plenary Session in Shillong, where we will be deliberating on the developmental issues of the North Eastern Region.
- Hon'ble Prime Minister attended the 65<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting held at Shillong in May, 2016 and set in motion a new development agenda for the North Eastern Region. We are all committed to implement his vision for the North East.
- Towards achieving our objectives for overall development of the region we will deliberate today on some important agenda items. Your pro-active participation would generate ideas to enhance benefits of the people of the region. The agenda items include the following:-
  - a) Re-positioning of NEC into a Council of conflict resolution, development planning and knowledge hub for the NER.
  - b) Recommendations of the EFC and approval of the Cabinet for continuation of NEC Schemes till 2020.
  - c) Revised NEC Guidelines in view of the change in project selection and sanctioning procedures as per recommendations of the EFC.
  - d) Transformation of the 14 Aspirational Districts in NER, Roadmap for doubling Farmers Income by 2022, Strengthening NERCORMP for Livelihoods improvement in NER and other items from the Ministries of Road Transport, Women & Child Development, DoNER, Health & family Welfare and Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.

Now I would like to highlight some of the major achievements of the NEC and also place before you some of the pressing issues.

- With the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan period coming to an end, the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC), Ministry of Finance has recommended extension of the schemes of the NEC for the 3 (three) years period from FY 2017-18 to FY 2019-20 with a fund support of Rs. 3500 crores for the 'Schemes of NEC' and Rs.1000 crore for North East Road Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS). The Cabinet approved the same on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.
- The Schemes of NEC has now become a Central Sector Scheme with 100 % Central funding for New projects and existing pattern for ongoing projects.
- Besides expenditure made by the Ministry of DONER and NEC, all Central Ministries, unless specifically exempted, are required to spend 10% of their Gross Budgetary

Support in the North Eastern Region not only through their ongoing schemes, but also through dedicated schemes/projects for the North Eastern Region.

- From now on, as approved by the Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 28.03.2018, the NEC shall be focussing bamboo development, value chain in piggery sector, regional tourism, higher education, tertiary healthcare (including health education) & special intervention in backward areas, Sixth schedule areas, backward districts and militancy affected Districts & Autonomous Districts Council Areas, Livelihood Projects, S&T interventions in the NER, Surveys & Investigations of projects in power, irrigation, and flood control, and promotion of the North Eastern Region.
- In order to provide a platform to identify various constraints on the way of accelerated, inclusive and sustainable economic growth in the North East Region of the country and to recommend suitable interventions for addressing identified constraints, the Government has set up the NITI Forum for the North East. To enable convergence, the Secretary NEC has been made the Convener of the NITI-NER Forum. The first round of the discussion was held on the 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2018 at Agartala.
- In the light of the EFC recommendations and with a view to liquidate the committed liabilities, NEC has extensively reviewed its ongoing projects and as many as 156 projects were completed/closed during the year.

#### **BUDGET**

- I am happy to inform that during the year 2017-18 NEC could be allotted Rs. 1075 crore at BE stage. However, at the RE stage it was enhanced to Rs. 1245.66 crore. Put together, this was an increase of 28.6% over the budgeted outlay of Rs. 968.79 crore in 2016-17. Depending on the improved utilisation of funds and legitimate demand of the North Eastern States, NEC would seek for allocation of more liberal grant of resources in the coming years.

#### **TRANSPORT AND CONNECTIVITY SECTOR**

- NEC has put maximum emphasis on the Transport and Communication Sector. Since inception, NEC has funded construction of 10,832 Kms of roads including inter-state and roads of economic importance. During 2017-18, 98 kms formation and 85 kms pavement were completed for the ongoing road projects.
- MoUs with Braithwaite Burn & Jessop Construction Company Ltd (BBJ) and Central Public Works Department (CPWD) were signed for implementation of NERSDS. After the Cabinet approval of the NERSDS scheme for continuation till March 2020, another 16 projects have been identified for implementation by BBJ, CPWD and NE State Government. The work is to be started by November, 2018.
- Rs.178.18 crore has been sanctioned and Rs.10 crore released for extension of runway at Barapani Airport.
- 10 (ten) numbers of road projects were completed since the last Council meeting.

## **POWER SECTOR**

- NEC has also contributed to the development of Power Sector. NEC has so far constructed about 9202.02 Circuit Km in transmission and distribution networks with 1407.20 MVA transformation addition capacity in the NE Region since inception, out of which 641.50 circuit km and 200.10 MVA has been completed after the 66<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.
- During 2017-18, 12 (twelve) power sector projects (Arunachal Pradesh – 4; Meghalaya – 4; Mizoram – 2; Nagaland – 2) were completed and commissioned. Currently, there are 29 (twenty nine) ongoing power projects under various stages of implementation by the NE State Governments out of which 12 (twelve) are physically completed and awaiting necessary documents to formally close the projects.

## **LIVELIHOODS SECTOR**

- For promoting livelihoods, NEC has been a pioneer in implementing community based resource management with a bottoms-up approach. The very highly rated and successful North Eastern Regional Community Resource Management Projects (NERCORMP) is being implemented in 10 most difficult and remote hill districts of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Meghalaya through participating planning. During 2017-18, NEC has released Rs.37.00 crore for NERCORMP-III projects.
- NEC has been supporting noteworthy initiative of construction of wayside amenities as part of Prime Minister Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Mission) on approved Tourist circuit falling under NERCORMP projects area in Ukhrul, Chandel and Senapati districts of Manipur.

## **HANDICRAFTS AND HANDLOOM SECTOR**

- NEC has been supporting handloom and handicrafts on a cluster based approach. Setting up of Industrial Estate, Capacity building, exhibition and marketing hub were also supported. Development of Cane & Bamboo Technology Centre (CBTC) is a mile stone in promotion of bamboo as an economic upliftment of the artisans.

## **TOURISM SECTOR**

- We are all aware that tourism has immense potential in the North Eastern Region. Development of Tourism in the region could be the single largest industry to develop the economy of the people of the region. The North East Tourism Development Council will work steadfastly for the promotion of tourism in the region and I am sure that the tourism sector will get a huge boost. I urge the State Governments to subscribe to the equity of the Council and take ownership in this endeavour.
- NEC would continue to support creation of tourism infrastructure, especially in areas not being covered by M/o Tourism.



## **AGRICULTURE SECTOR**

- NEC has been supporting for cultivation of large cardamom, bee-keeping and honey development, integrated horticulture development and construction of Agro market complexes. NEC has also put emphasis on development of piggery and fishery for augmentation of fish and meat production in the region. These efforts would now be dovetailed with the activities of concerned Central Ministries. NEC is also supporting NERAMAC for obtaining Geographical Indication (GI) registration of various unique and indigenous horticulture products of the region.

## **HEALTH SECTOR**

- Under the Health Sector, NEC has been providing support for Dr. B. Borooah Cancer Institute in Guwahati which is a regional centre for cancer treatment & research. I am happy to announce that the institute has been taken over by the Department of Atomic Energy through which this hospital would be developed in the model of Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai as a Premier Post Graduate level Institute for cancer care in the country.
- A total of 5 (five) projects under Health sector have been completed since the last Council meeting and in view of delay in completion, another 39 projects have been declared as closed on 'as is where is' basis.

## **WATERSHED MANAGEMENT SECTOR**

- NEC will provide financial assistance of Rs.27.993 crore for infrastructure development for setting up of Brahmaputra Study Centre at Gauhati University.
- NEC has also supported projects for drinking water supply, irrigation, anti-erosion and flood management structures, watershed management programmes and survey and investigation of hydropower and water resources.

## **SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY SECTOR**

- Under Science & Technology Sector, special thrust has been given towards Establishment of North Eastern Spatial Data Repository (NESDR) by the North East Space Application Centre (NESAC) for facilitating communication linkage, data cataloguing between Regional node of NESAC and State nodes of different State Remote Sensing and Application Centres (SRACs) of NER.
- As part of the re-orientation of the NEC, the NLCPR Central Scheme called Science & Technology Intervention in the North Eastern Region (STINER) would now be administered by NEC. The establishment of STINER – Common Facility Centre(STINER-CFC) at CSIR-NEIST, Jorhat would be sanctioned by the NEC with the specific objectives of setting up of technology demonstration and incubation hub and creation of food processing and food testing laboratory.
- Promotion of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) technology for Geographic Information System (GIS) and remote sensing application was identified as thrust

area and support for necessary infrastructure along with training programme has been extended through NESAC for all State remote sensing application centres (SRACs) of the NE States. In this regard, one Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) each has been provided to all NE States and necessary trainings for flying of UAV have been imparted to the NE State government officials.

#### **PROMOTION OF NE CULTURE**

- NEC has taken possession of a plot measuring 5341.75 sq.m in Dwarka, New Delhi and the works for setting up of Cultural & Information Centre has already being initiated. NEC has also procured one more plot of land measuring 199 Sq. mtr. at Rohini, New Delhi for construction of Hostel-cum-Convention Centre for students of North Eastern States studying in Delhi.

#### **SPORTS SECTOR**

- Two indoor stadiums have been sanctioned, one at Pomlakraj, Shillong and Ampati, South West Garo Hills district for the upcoming National Games 2022 to held in Meghalaya.

#### **MONITORING OF NEC PROJECTS**

- NEC is also constantly carrying out monitoring and evaluation of its funded projects. During 2017-18, a total of 84 number of NEC funded projects were physically inspected which is not a small task considering the difficult terrain of the NER coupled with having to rely a small team of consultants engaged on contract basis.
- NEC has also engaged NESAC (North East Space Application Centre) for satellite enabled monitoring of its ongoing infrastructure projects. This will enable all stakeholders to play a part in ensuring quality and timeliness of NEC funded projects.

We hope to have fruitful and meaningful discussions on the agenda items of this Plenary Session and I am confident that important decisions will be taken based on the learned inputs and suggestions of the Members of the Council.

**THANK YOU AND JAI HIND.**



**REPORT OF  
SECRETARY, NEC**

FOR THE

**67<sup>th</sup> PLENARY**

OF

**NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL**

On the

**9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

At the

**STATE CONVENTION CENTRE,  
HOTEL PINWOOD,  
SHILLONG**

\*\*\*\*\*

---

**REPORT OF SECRETARY, NEC TO THE 67<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL**

Hon'ble Home Minister, Hon'ble Minister of State(I/C) MDONER, Hon'ble Governors, Hon'ble Chief Ministers, Ministers and other Members of the Council, Secretary Ministry of DoNER and Senior Officials of the Union Ministries and State Governments, I welcome all of you to the 67<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the North Eastern Council. I also express heartiest congratulations and welcome our new members, Hon'ble Governors of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Mizoram as well as Chief Ministers of Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura.

I am privileged to be a part of this august gathering and I convey my sincere gratitude to Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) MDONER and all the Hon'ble Members of the Council for the guidance and support that have been extended to the NEC Secretariat.

## **2. Structure of the Report:**

The report of Secretary includes important events and initiatives, setting up iconic institutes, issues which need urgent attention, important activities during 2017-18, some concerns for the attention of the Members of the Council, review of the achievements of annual plan 2017-18, and sectoral allocations for 2018-19. The details of sectoral activities are also given in this report. Statistical tables have been given separately in the last part of the Report.

### **(I) Important Events and Initiatives:**

#### **(a) Review Meetings with the State Governments:**

During the year, through my visits to the States and also through visits of the Senior Officers of the NEC Secretariat, attempts were made to closely interact with the implementing departments of the State Government to understand the challenges in implementation of NEC projects, particularly projects which are delayed from target date of completion.

Review meeting on NEC projects which are delayed for 3 to 5 years from target date of completion were held in NEC Secretariat, Shillong with representatives from State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Mizoram on 13.10.2017. During the meeting it was decided that all the projects where NEC has released its entire share would be closed, projects which have been physically completed were also to be closed with immediate effect. Other delayed projects for 3 to 5 years were to be closed on 'as is where is basis'. Similar meeting was also held with representatives from Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 respectively at NEC Secretariat. During these meetings, it was decided that projects which are delayed more than 5 years from target date of completion would be closed immediately by submitting necessary documents like QPR, CC, UC and Photographs etc.

Moreover, extensive State-level review meetings were held with the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh (16.05.2018), Meghalaya(23.05.2018), Assam(24.05.2018), Mizoram(29.05.2018), Manipur(04.06.2018), Nagaland(08.06.2018) and Sikkim(04.07.2018) respectively at their State Secretariats. From these meetings, it was decided that out of 116 projects which are delayed for more than 2 years from target date of completion, 39 projects would be closed on 'as is where is basis'. The NEC funds saved against the closed projects would be made available for new projects which would be sanctioned by NEC based on the revised procedure as approved by the Cabinet.

Further the State Governments were requested to keep in abeyance 197 new projects in the above States of NER which were sanctioned after March 2017. These projects would be examined by a Project Implementation Committee(PIC) consisting of the Secretary, DoNER, Secretary, NEC and the Chief Secretary of the concerned State. The PIC may co-opt representatives from line ministries. Projects falling outside the areas identified by the Cabinet for NEC funding may be transferred to NESIDS scheme of the Ministry of DoNER or the concerned ministries of the Central Government for funding from their end. It was also decided that projects which are delayed for more than 2 years from target date of completion may be attempted to complete at the earliest with due formalities.

After the last Council Meeting, NEC has closed/completed 156 projects altogether with a total cost of Rs.1323.40 Crore with due formal procedures. Out of this, some projects were closed on 'as is where is basis' considering the non-feasibilities and inordinate delays.

**(b) Third Party Evaluation of NEC Schemes:**

As part of the process for continuation of NEC Schemes beyond the 12th Five Year Plan period, the third party evaluation of the Schemes was conducted by IIM Shillong in June-July 2017. The summary findings and recommendations of the evaluation were as follows:

- i. North Eastern Region of India needs to work out its developmental plans keeping in mind the local ecosystem. The stake holders of this region from among the states, ideally should work together to take the developmental process, as per the need of the region, forward. As the mandate of NEC is to work as a Regional Planning Body, specific to the North Eastern Region and which has the people, who not only understand the regional aspirations but also have knowledge and skill to take the developmental process of this region forward. It is in this premise, NEC is important to the nation in general and region in particular.
- ii. Planning process should involve all stakeholders much more in order to move away from the top-down approach.
- iii. It has been observed that physical targets planned need proper justification. It is recommended that the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan period may be extended with specific

physical targets. A review of the achievements may be carried out after one year of the extension. Large numbers of projects were taken up, which were not from the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan period (i.e., spill over projects from the previous Plan period). These projects need to be reviewed by a third party, so that decisions can be taken for continuation of these projects as per the priority.

- iv. There is a large unspent balance lying with the State Governments. There is a need to have a review.
- v. Over and above, the percentage of contributions of the states as release of states share is approximately 3.3 percent. It is recommended that NEC would fund the project only after the states' shares are released by the State Governments.
- vi. Evaluation and monitoring is one of the areas of concern. Only 0.22 percent of the total budgetary allocation in 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan was kept for the evaluation and monitoring, which is well below the international standards of 1 to 3 percent (OECD Report). It is recommended the budgetary support for the evaluation monitoring be increased with a proper framework for such evaluation and monitoring

In view of the various observations, it is proposed to continue the activities under various sectors for overall development of NER. Gaps for further intervention as and when identified will continue to be incorporated within the overall scheme.

**(c) Recent Developments:**

In its 200<sup>th</sup> Report on Demands for Grants(2016-17) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, which was presented to Rajya Sabha and laid on the table of Lok Sabha on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017, the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs had recommended granting of more funds to the NEC in order to complete its committed liabilities towards development of the area and also to enable it to go for new projects as per the mandate given to it by the Government of India. The Committee recommended that the Ministry of Finance consider allocating funds to one-time measure for liquidating the committed liabilities so that NEC gets an opportunity to start on a clean slate. It may be mentioned here that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Administrative Reform Commission had also recommended that NEC should implement development projects under NLCPR.

Therefore, the NEC needs to be provided with additional funds to meet its liabilities on ongoing projects as well as take up new projects especially iconic projects and institutes which are very much needed in the region. Key iconic infrastructure proposed by the NEC in its proposal to Ministry of DoNER included:

- a. Setting up of a Regional Road Research Institute.**
- b. Upgradation of Regional Aviation Infrastructure.**
- c. Setting up of Agricultural Colleges in collaboration with ICAR.**
- d. Creation of Sports and Music Infrastructure in Sixth Schedule, Backward and Militant Affected Districts.**
- e. NEC Information and Cultural Centre, Dwarka, New Delhi.**

While proposing the extension of the NEC Schemes beyond March 2017 to Ministry of DONER, the NEC had projected a requirement of Rs. 7,500 crore for the three year period of FY 2017-18 to FY 2019-20. Ministry of DONER, after assessment had, in turn, proposed to Ministry of Finance a package of Rs. 6,500 crores (including NLCPR liabilities of Rs. 640 crore) for the said period.

On 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018, Cabinet approved the EFC recommendations for allocation of Rs. 4500 crore for the 3(three) year period of FY 2017-18 to FY 2019-20. However, this is including liabilities as indicated below:

ITEMS	Rs.in Crore
Allocation	4500
NEC Liabilities	(-)2357
NE Road Sector Development Scheme(NERSDS)	(-)1000
NLCPR (Central) Liabilities from M/o DONER	(-)640
Product Infrastructure Development for Destinations & Circuits (PIDDC) Scheme Liabilities from Ministry of Tourism	(-)522
Available Balance for New NEC Projects	-19

In view of the liabilities, there will be hardly any funds for new NEC project during the period 2017-18 to 2019-20. However, a window has been opened for NEC to receive additional infusion of funds during 2018-19 depending on availability of resources, performance of the scheme and utilization of funds. Therefore, NEC will have to ensure maximum utilization of existing funds for completion of ongoing schemes in order to enable it to approach the Ministry of Finance for additional funds during 2018-19.

**(d) Reduced Areas for NEC Intervention:**

While approving the extension of the schemes of the NEC till March 2020, sectors like Power, Irrigation and Flood Control, Water Supply, Sports, School Education and Primary & Secondary Healthcare have been left out from the purview of NEC. Earlier too, the schemes for Skill Development and Viability Gap Funding for Airlines were transferred to Ministry of Skill Development and Ministry of Civil Aviation respectively. The areas of funding for NEC have, thereby, been drastically reduced.

**(e) New Project Identification Process for NEC Projects:**

All projects funded by the NEC out of 60% of its budget will now be identified by a **Project Identification Committee (PIC)** consisting of Secretary DONER, Secretary NEC and Chief Secretary of the concerned state, whereas earlier, states send projects through a priority list which are then scrutinised and selected by an internal committee in the NEC. Further, all sanctions between Rs. 5 and Rs. 15 crore will now be sanctioned by a Standing Finance Committee with representative from IFD, DONER and line Ministries, whereas these

were earlier sanctioned by the Secretary, NEC on the recommendation of an internal committee of the NEC.

**(f) Status of Projects Sanctioned in 2017-18:**

The projects which were sanctioned by the NEC during FY 2017-18 have been asked to be put on hold till new procedure prescribed by the EFC is implemented. However, these projects have already been processed for implementation and many have already started or contracts awarded. If this matter is not re-considered, it could have serious implications in terms of cost, credibility and even legal issues. In this context, it may be noted that the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) meeting for NEC schemes was held on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and the Cabinet approved the same on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018. However, the changes which have been approved are being effected with retrospective effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.

The scheme of NEC-Special Development Project has now been changed into a Central Sector Scheme with 100% grant, instead of the earlier block grant on 90:10 basis. Some schemes, viz., NLCPR-Central, PIDDC Scheme, Advocacy & Publicity, NERCORMP-III and Capacity Building and Technical Assistance have been transferred to NEC. It is worthwhile to mention that NLCPR-Central Scheme would be discontinued after meeting the committed liabilities and central agencies would henceforth get resources from the 40% earmarked funds for the new projects of NEC.

**(II) Setting-up Iconic Institutes:**

(a) The first Executive Committee of the NEC held in October, 2015 took a decision on setting up of the following regional institutes in NER.

- i. North East Regional Institute for Multi-Hazard Disaster Research & Development*
- ii. North East Institute for Computer & Electronics Skill Development*
- iii. Regional Institute of Excellence in Global Warming, Climate Change and Environment Research*
- iv. Development and Establishment of PARAM Super Computers in NEC Shillong and 8 NE States including Sikkim.*
- v. Regional Institute of Mass Communication*
- vi. Regional Institute of Architecture and Planning*
- vii. North East Institute of Skill Development*
- viii. Regional Institute of Public Health*
- ix. Nursing & Paramedical Colleges in all District Headquarters of NE States*
- x. Institute of Music, Art and Culture*
- xi. Regional Institute of Civil Aviation Training & Development*
- xii. Medical Colleges in Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland*
- xiii. Establishment of Polytechnics in all District Headquarters of NE States*
- xiv. Establishment of more ITIs in NE Region.*



(b) The NEC Regional Plan (2017-18 to 2019-20) which was adopted in the 66<sup>th</sup> Plenary held in May 2017 recommended for establishment of the following regional institutes in order to develop human resource in areas where professional expertise is still lacking:

- i. Regional Institute of Environmental Studies*
- ii. Regional Institute of Mass Communication*
- iii. Regional Institute of Architecture and Planning*
- iv. Regional Institute of Music, Art and Dance*
- v. Regional Institute of Civil Aviation*
- vi. Regional Institute of Teachers Training*
- vii. Regional Institute of Forensic Science.*
- viii. Regional Statistical Institute along the lines of the Indian Statistical Institute Kolkata*
- ix. Regional Indian Institute of Sciences similar to that of IISc Bengaluru*

(c) In the 66<sup>th</sup> Plenary Council held in May 2017, the Hon'ble Members suggested the establishment of the following institutes:

- i. Centre of Excellence for Research and Development of Orchid*
- ii. Entrepreneurship Development Institutes in each State of the North East Region*
- iii. Regional Fashion Technology Institute*
- iv. Mountaineering and Adventure Sports Institute,*
- v. Regional Police Training Academy*
- vi. Research Institute for Tribals, Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes*
- vii. Regional Road Research Institute*

In view of the limited resources available with the NEC, it may not be able to fund setting up all of these institutes. Therefore, the budgetary allocation of NEC should be enhanced to meet the demand for setting up of these iconic institutes.

**(III) Issues Which Need Urgent Attention:**

- i. The new guidelines incorporating the changes indicated in the preceding paragraphs are to be approved urgently.*
- ii. The Project Identification Committee (PIC) meeting for all states should be held urgently as all fresh sanctions are held up.*
- iii. The functional autonomy of NEC should not be diluted. Any changes in the scope and functioning of NEC should necessarily pass through the NEC Plenary*

which is the supreme Governing Body of NEC and represented by the Governors and Chief Ministers of NE States.

- iv. The funds of the NLCPR may be mandatorily deposited with the Ministry of DONER. A certain percentage of funds under NLCPR may be transferred to NEC as recommended by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Administrative Reform Commission.
- v. NEC's Budget may be enhanced suitably at least to Rs.2,000crore annually from 2018-19 onwards.
- vi. Incentives may be attached to posts in the NEC and delegation of financial power of Secretary, NEC be enhanced adequately.
- vii. Delegated powers of the Pay and Accounts Office attached to the NEC may be enhanced.

#### **(IV) Some Important Activities During 2017-18:**

##### **(a) NEC as State-of-Art Resource Centre:**

Given its mandate of a regional planning body, the NEC has, for the first time prepared as sector-wise outline of development plans and projects for the three years beginning April 2017 with a view to accelerating the pace of development in the region. Preparation of executable pan NER Plan on specified areas would continue to be the core strength of the Council.

As a part of NEC Strategic Summits, three seminars/workshops were held-(a) Recalling the Great Shillong Earthquake, 12<sup>th</sup> June 1897: Quest for Reliable & Effective Mitigation and Post Disaster Strategies (b) Consultative Meeting on Milk Production in North Eastern Region and (c) Learning and Sharing from the Best Practices of Community-led Sustainable Livelihoods Development in North East India.

To make NEC a Centre of Excellence equipped with adequate resources, the NEC Regional Documentation and Information Centre (RDIC) has now been linked with leading libraries across the country for digital sharing of resources. RDIC will continue to be supported with latest resources, infrastructure and IT tools in order to make it into a world-class resource centre for the North East.

**"Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Centre for Policy Research and Analysis"** at IIM, Shillong has been set up to prescribe policy planning for overall development of the region.

##### **(b) Dr.T.Ao Regional Football Academy:**

The project was submitted through State Priority List of Nagaland during 2016-17 for establishment of a regional football academy in Dimapur. It was recommended during NEC-PAC Meeting held on March 22, 2018 with an approved cost of Rs.13.08 Crore under MH-3601 with a NEC share of Rs.11.70 Crore. The foundation stone of the academy was laid on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at Seithekima, Dimapur, Nagaland. The academy aims at exposing of players

to the latest training methods, producing technically excellent and innovative players with exceptional decision making skills, grooming young talents through scientific training, tapping the abundant sport potentials of the region and developing world class facilities etc.

**(c) NITI-NER Forum:**

“First Meeting of NITI Forum for North East” was organised on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at Agartala. Various developmental issues of North Eastern Region were discussed during the meeting which was participated by members and representatives from various circles. Some of the main issues which were discussed during the meeting were transport and communication, power, agriculture and allied activities, tourism, NLCPR, NESIDS, NEIDS and Aspirational Districts etc. NEC is taking appropriate action on the decisions arrived during the meeting.

**(d) Academic Evaluation of Vision 2020:**

The National Institute of Public Finance and Policy(NIPFP), New Delhi has been entrusted to conduct the Mid-Term Academic Evaluation of NER Vision 2020 and preparation of new vision document. Final Terms of Reference(ToR) and revised budget for conducting the evaluation is under progress.

**(e) NEC UC Portal:**

NEC has developed UC Portal(<http://179.22.89/ucportal>) for filing UC in respect of schemes and projects under MH-3601 by Planning Departments of all the respective 8 States of North East. Now, State Governments can upload UC through online for smooth implementation and transparency of NEC schemes/projects.

**(f) NEC Project Monitoring Portal:**

NEC in collaboration with North Eastern Space Application Centre(NESAC) has developed Project Monitoring Mobile App which will link with the new website of NEC. The new portal can monitor NEC projects directly, especially infrastructure projects through satellite imageries. Unmanned Aerial Vehicle(UAV) would be used in inaccessible areas both by NEC and State Governments for monitoring of NEC projects. NESAC has already converted 95 projects(Mizoram=32, Other NER States=63) on pilot basis with a total locations of 165 into GIS platform and is incorporated in the dashboard for monitoring purpose.

**(V) Administration:**

Since the launch of e-Office in the North Eastern Council Secretariat, Shillongw.e.f. 31.03.2017 by Dr.Jitendra Singh, Hon’ble Minister of State(IC) for DONERand Chairman, NEC, 275 e-files have been created as on 30.06.2018.

Five (5) officers have joined NEC Secretariatsince the last Council Meeting.

Sl. No.	Name of Officer	Name of Post/ Designation	Date of Joining
1	ShriGopalChetri	Adviser(IFC &WSM)	19.06.2017(FN)
2	Shri J.A.W. Pariat	Executive Engineer(Power)	26.07.2017(FN)

3	Shri B.T.S. Dong	Deputy Financial Adviser	30.08.2017(FN)
4	Shri L. Beimopha	Deputy Secretary(Admin)	21.05.2018(FN)
5	Shri D.L. Wankhar	Director(Planning)	04.06.2018(FN)

**(VI) Some Concerns for Attention of the Members of the Council:**

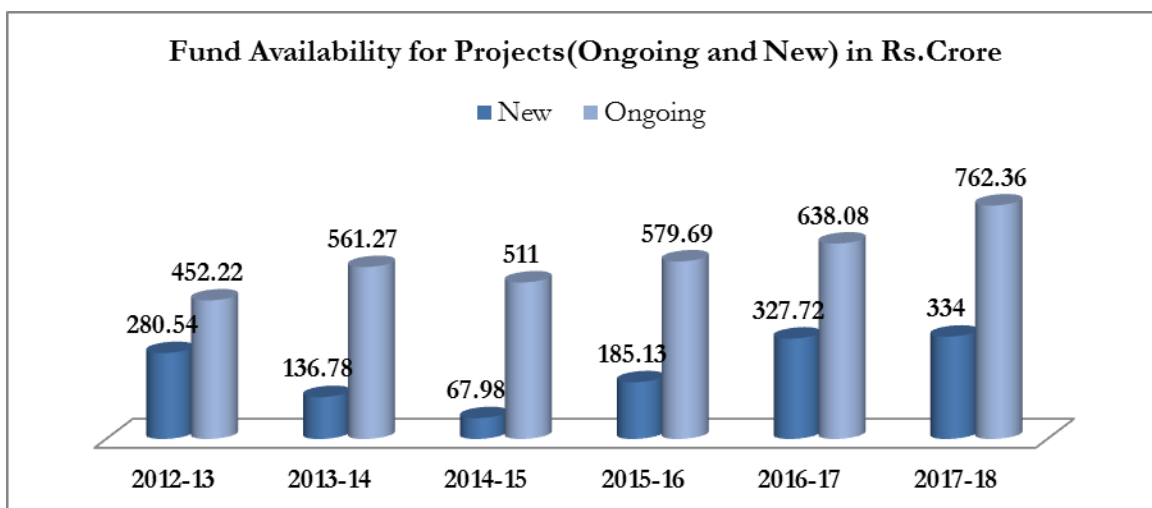
**(a) Declining Financial Outlays of NEC:**

The allocation of fund to NEC substantially decreased in successive Five Year Plans. During the 12<sup>th</sup> FYP, the proposed outlay was Rs 13,027.38 Crore out of which Rs 6,108.00 Crore was approved which is lower than the approved outlay of Rs.7,394 Crore for 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan.

Moreover, it has been observed that the funds allocated during the Five Year Plan period falls short of the approved outlays. Against the approved outlay of Rs.3,500 Crore, Rs.7,394 Crore and Rs.6,108 Crore for the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plans, actual allocations were Rs.2,511.50 Crore, Rs.3,248 Crore and Rs.3789.99Crore respectively registering a shortfall of 28.24%, 56.07% and 37.95 % respectively. This has been a cause of concern for the NE states which have considerable expectations from the NEC. The concern is that even in nominal terms, the allocation has gone down whereas the demand of the constituent States of NEC is on an average of Rs. 4,800 crores annually.

The constant demand for enhancement of NEC's budgetary allocations has been made mainly on the grounds that the amount budgeted for the NEC is too small to make any meaningful impact on the development of inter-state infrastructure or human development. There is a large gap between the resources made available and the aspirations of the States and without a quantum jump in the NEC allocation, it will be difficult for NEC to provide funds for core areas and for large projects with Inter-State/regional character which in fact is the mandate of NEC.

Due to the insufficient budget, availability of funds for new projects is dwindling as the demand for releases for ongoing projects have to be accorded priority leaving meagre balance for taking up new projects as there has been no substantial increase in the annual plan allocation.



**(b) Problems of Manpower in the NEC Secretariat:**

NEC Secretariat, Shillong has a sanctioned strength of 202 posts, of which 120 posts are presently filled-up and 82 are lying vacant. Several attempts have been made to fill-up these posts through repeated advertisements but to no avail. Hon'ble Prime Minister in his speech during the 65<sup>th</sup> Plenary mentioned that NEC should transform itself to a state-of-the-art Resource Centre for the NE Region. The manpower strength presently available in the NEC Secretariat, Shillong is insufficient to fulfil its mandated role to function as Regional Planning Body for the NER as per the NEC Amendment Act, 2002.

Sectoral heads in NEC Secretariat do not have middle-level and junior level officers to help them out. In this respect, the recommendations of the Revitalization Committee Report of NEC(constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri P.P Srivastav, former Member, NEC) could be implemented by Government of India. In that Report, around 81numbers of new posts were recommended for creation and the same was accepted by the Government of India. Similarly, the Report also recommended for devising a suitable incentive structure to attract talent to the NEC Secretariat. Perhaps, Government of India could have a fresh look at the Revitalization Committee Report of NEC.

**(c) Sectoral Allocation Under Annual Plan of NEC for 2018-19:**

A separate agenda for approval of the Annual Plan of NEC for 2018-19 is placed before the 67<sup>th</sup>Plenary. The Annual Plan(2018-19) of NEC for Rs. 1156.00Crore is proposed to be allocated as follows:-

Sl. No.	Sectors	Budget 2018-19 (Rs. in Crore)	Percentage
1	Agriculture & Allied	196.02	16.96
2	Power & Renewable Resource Energy	60.80	5.26
3	Water Development	52.43	4.54
4	Industries	45.52	3.94
5	Tourism	56.08	4.85

6	Transport & Communication	488.77	42.28
7	Medical & Health	20.59	1.78
8	Human Resource Development & Education	120.64	10.44
9	Science & Technology	35.77	3.09
10	Information, Publicity & Public Relations	22.52	1.95
11	Evaluation & Monitoring	5.87	0.51
12	New Scheme	51.00	4.41
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>1156.00</b>	<b>100</b>

## (VII) Major Achievements During 2017-18:

The major achievements of NEC during 2017-18 for various sectors are summarized and placed below:

### **Agriculture & Allied Sector:**

Agriculture and allied sector has taken up many projects/schemes for augmentation of production and productivity and infrastructure development for NER under various agriculture and its allied activities. A number of proposals have been approved under relevant schemes for implementation in the State of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura. In view of the importance of support for extension, innovation and awareness through Research Organisation and Training Centres and also in realising that the farmers of the North East require the up-to-date and scientific know-how for increasing production and productivity, NEC has supported strengthening and establishment of training and extension centres in the areas of agriculture and allied in the NER. A number of proposals on development of piggery, duckery, poultry, fishery etc. received from the States and various government bodies have been supported. Some of the projects which were closed/completed during the year 2017-18 are:

- i. Establishment of Broiler Duck Breeding Farm at R.K. Nagar (Location: West Tripura District).
- ii. Construction of Community Based Fishery Project at Beiswapmpui, Peren District, Nagaland (Location: Peren District).
- iii. Construction of Cold Storage at Satchand, Tripura (Location: South Tripura District).
- iv. Setting up of 1000 MT Capacity Multipurpose Cold Storage at Amarpur, Tripura (Location: Gomati District).
- v. Establishment of Community Mushroom Production & Cultivation Centre at Damdai, Mizoram (Location: Aizawl District).
- vi. Plantation of Lime (Citrus Aurantiifolia) for Sustainable Agricultural Production, Nagaland.
- vii. Integrated Agri.-Horti. Development through Plantation on Cluster Basis in Nagaland (Locations: Dimapur, Mokokchung & Peren Districts).
- viii. Infrastructure Development for Strengthening of Extension and Training Cell for Development of Livestock, Deorali, Sikkim.

- ix. Setting up of 1000 MT Capacity Multipurpose Cold Storage at Khowai.
- x. Reclamation and Renovation of Old Ponds and Tanks.
- xi. Development of Chabou Fishery at Rio Colony, Dimpaur, Nagaland

**Industries and Tourism Sector:**

Understanding the potential of indigenous ways of developing handloom and handicrafts in NER, the NEC has been supporting its activities on a cluster based approach. The NEC's support includes design development to attract the markets as well as volume expansion. Capacity building, exhibition and marketing are the tasks carried out under various programmes. Supports were also extended for the development of cane and bamboo sector. Some of the projects which were closed/ completed during the year 2017-18 are:

- i. Integrated Development of Community Sericulture garden at Solungyar Village by Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
- ii. Establishment of a Livelihood Enhancement Centre at Kohima, Nagaland.
- iii. Renovation of Panthoibi (Government of Manipur) Emporium in the Emporia Complex in New Delhi.
- iv. Upgradation of Export Promotion Industrial Park (EPIP), Lengte, Mizoram.
- v. Upgradation of Mizoram Handloom & Handicrafts Development Corporation Ltd.
- vi. Integrated Development of Bamboo Handicrafts Cluster in Tripura.
- vii. Capacity Building Training on Bamboo Trades.
- viii. Development of Work Sheds/Factory Sheds at Takyelpat Industrial Estate in Imphal West District, Manipur.
- ix. Development of Work Sheds/Factory Sheds at Industrial Estate, Bishnupur, Manipur.
- x. Development of Work Sheds/Factory Sheds at Industrial Estate, Thoubal, Manipur.
- xi. Enhancement of Capacity of the Tea Processing Factory at Brahmakunda Tea Estate, West Tripura, Department of Industries & Commerce, Govt. of Tripura, Agartala.
- xii. UNIDO-CBTC Phase-II Cane and Bamboo Networking Project.
- xiii. Electrification and Water Supply for the Apparel and Garment Making Centre at Industrial Growth Centre, Luangmual, Mizoram.
- xiv. Construction of a Convention Centre at Reiek Tourist Resort in Mizoram.
- xv. Upgradation of Forest Houses at important Tourist Destinations of Arunachal Pradesh.
- xvi. Tourist Infrastructure Development of Sikar Lake at Tirbin under West Siang District, Arunachal Pradesh.
- xvii. Development of Park, Angling and Picnic Spot at Basar, West Siang District, Arunachal Pradesh.

- xviii. Renovation of Tourist Lodges at Baghmara, Williamnagar and Siju in Meghalaya.
- xix. Development of Lavi Lake in Niuland at Dimapur, Nagaland.

### **Evaluation & Monitoring Sector:**

In order to strengthen the monitoring and inspection mechanism in the NEC Secretariat, the engagement of consultants in the fields of civil engineering, electrical engineering and managerial economics on contractual basis was resorted to on the pattern of the National Level Quality Monitors for PMGSY under the Ministry of Rural Development. Apart from this, an initiative to get the various NEC funded projects evaluated by a third party agency was also undertaken. The selection of these third party evaluation agencies is done on the basis of an EOI floated by the NEC Secretariat. The selected agency is then made to sign an MoU with the NEC Secretariat detailing the responsibilities of both parties for ensuring effective evaluation of the projects. The reports are then presented to the NEC Secretariat for acceptance and for further necessary action.

During 2017-18, 84 ongoing projects in different location of NER were inspected. Moreover, 100 new proposals were supported for seminar/symposium/workshops etc. The seminar papers and recommendations/proceedings were sent to Planning Departments of all NE state Governments and to other concerned agencies/organisations for necessary follow-up action. They were expected to be used and relevance to the States for formulating their developmental plans, policies and strategy.

### **Human Resources Development and Employment Sector:**

During 2017-18, NEC had purchased land measuring 1990 sq.m. for construction of hostel for students of NE States at New Delhi from Delhi Development Authority. Another project has been funded by NEC for "Digital Classrooms in 215 Schools in the tribal area of NE States-Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura". Proposals relating to social welfare scheme for women, children and elderly like establishment of crèches, old age homes, orphanages, children homes etc. were being taken up under the scheme "Development & Promotion of Education and Social Sector". As a pilot project, the NEC is currently supporting students studying at the Assam Rifles Public School, Shillong. Till 2017-18, a total number of 785 students have been sponsored by the NEC. Various job-oriented training programmes and coaching programmes for civil services and other competitive examinations were also sponsored.

Another scheme is the "NEC Dr. T. Ao Memorial Football Tournament" introduced during 2009-10 which is an Inter-State Football Tournament held annually among states of NER in memory of (L) Dr. Talimeren Ao from Nagaland, who was the captain of the Indian National Football Team in the 1948. Seven(7) editions have been held so far at Nagaland,



Manipur, Sikkim, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Assam & Arunachal Pradesh. The 8<sup>th</sup> edition will be held soon in Nagaland. Some of projects which were closed/completed during 2017-18 are:

- i. Construction of Multipurpose Hall at Government Higher Secondary School, Kohima, Nagaland.
- ii. Construction of covered public sitting gallery including construction of dressing room, association hall, medical hall, official rooms, ball boys room, toilet etc. at the ground floor at Ground No.1, Polo, Shillong, Meghalaya.
- iii. Construction of NBCC Convention Centre at Kohima, Nagaland.
- iv. Construction and Establishment of Sports Centre at Phulpui, Aizawl District, Mizoram.
- v. Construction of Multipurpose Sports Centre for Northern Region of Mizoram at Darlawn, Aizawl District, Mizoram.
- vi. Construction of Football Stadium at Changlang in Changlang District, Arunachal Pradesh.
- vii. Construction of Indoor Stadium at Raga under Lower Subansiri District, Arunachal Pradesh.
- viii. Modernization of Assam Flying Club Ltd., Guwahati, Assam.
- ix. Construction of Football Stadium at Nari, East Siang District, Arunachal Pradesh.
- x. Development of Composite Sports Stadium Complex at Silchar DSA Ground, Assam.
- xi. Construction of Goroimari Stadium Ground at Langhin, KarbiAnglong, Assam.
- xii. Construction of Sports Complex at Tamlu, Longleng, Nagaland.
- xiii. Construction of Multi-Sports Centre at Muallungthu at Aizawl District, Mizoram.
- xiv. Upgradation/Modernisation of Class Rooms for 15 Government Colleges at Nagaland.
- xv. Upgradation and maintenance of Science Laboratory in 4 Science Colleges, Nagaland.
- xvi. Installation of modern equipment at all Government Colleges, Nagaland.
- xvii. Upgradation of Protective Home at Maumual, Aizawl District, Mizoram.
- xviii. Construction of Girls' Hostel and Construction of 6 Numbers of Teachers' Quarters at Borduria, Tirap District, Arunachal Pradesh.
- xix. Construction of Boys' and Girls' Hostel for Higher Secondary School at Dirang, Arunachal Pradesh.
- xx. Double seater desk and benches to various schools in Sikkim.
- xxi. Construction of 13 numbers of school buildings in various location of Sikkim.
- xxii. Infrastructure development of VKV Kuporijo, Arunachal Pradesh.
- xxiii. Infrastructure development of BagnibarNilmoniPhukan H.S. School, Dibrugarh, Victoria Girls H.S. School and A.R.T. High School, Margherita, Assam.

- xxiv. Construction of boys and girls hostel and compound fencing of the R.K. Sanatombi Devi Vidyalaya, Jiribam, Manipur.
- xxv. Construction of school infrastructure for J.N. Aier Residential School at Yajang, Mokochung, Nagaland.
- xxvi. Construction of Science Education in Collges under Higher Education in Tripura.
- xxvii. Construction of Community Service Centre for Welfare of Rural Community at Chumukedima, Dimapur, Nagaland.
- xxviii. Infrastructure Development of Government Secondary School and ME School under Tali Circle, KurungKumey District, Arunachal Pradesh.

### **Irrigation, Flood Control and Watershed Management Sector:**

The NEC has been supporting the various NE states by providing financial assistance for creating infrastructures to drinking water supply, irrigation, anti-erosion and flood management structures, water shed management programmes, besides the survey and investigation of the hydropower and water resource project. During 2017-18, 23 nos. of anti-erosion & flood management, 13 nos. of irrigation, 23 nos. of drinking water supply, 6 nos. of water-shed management and 7 nos. of survey and investigation of hydro-power and water resource projects were supported in various NE states.

Upto 2017-18, cultivable and homestead land area measuring about 82002.5 Ha could be protected in different NER states through the anti-erosion projects. 1,42,560 population have been benefitted through the drinking water supply schemes and 2405 Ha of irrigation potential were created through the water supply and irrigation schemes implemented in various NE states. Survey and investigation projects for the state of Meghalaya were also supported for creation of 925 MW of hydro power potential in the state. NEC has been associating with the Expert Committee created to assist the High Level Committee constituted by GOI for the Study on "Proper Management of Water Resources in NER". Some of projects which were completed during 2017-18 are:

- i. Dhankhunda Flow Irrigation Scheme, Kamrup District, Assam.
- ii. Construction of Flood Protection Wall at Upper Dhokhoso, Arunachal Pradesh.
- iii. Dhankhunda Flow Irrigation Scheme, Kamrup District, Assam.
- iv. Construction of Cross Regulator across Chowkidarkhong Stream and Improvement/Re-Sectioning of Parent Channels (Komlakhong, Thoubal District), Manipur.
- v. S&I Upper Khri Diversion Project Stage I & II (MeSEB), West Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya.
- vi. Construction of Check Dam/ retaining wall and drainage network to prevent major landslide at the cemetery in DawrpuiVengthar in Aizawl, Meghalaya.
- vii. FC & Irrigation potential of agriculture areas of Ngopa RD Block, Champhai District, Mizoram.

- viii. Phuaihbuang Pumping WSS in Mizoram, Aizawl District, Mizoram.
- ix. Implementation of Sangau WSS (Pumping) Phase-I, Lawngtlai District, Mizoram.
- x. Lengpui Town and Lengpui Airport Water Supply Scheme (Pumping), Mamit District, Mizoram.
- xi. Darlawn Water Supply Scheme (Augmentation) in Mizoram, Aizawl District, Mizoram.
- xii. Watershed Treatment for Flood Mitigation and Livelihood, Kohima District, Nagaland.
- xiii. Development of water Harvesting Pond for Augmentation of Irrigation in Nagaland, Kohima District, Nagaland.
- xiv. Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Makha Bazaar in East Sikkim.

#### **Information and Public Relations Sector:**

Under “Preservation and Promotion of Art and Culture in the NER”, reputed State Government, National and Regional Organisations related to art and culture are given project specific financial assistance for promotion of art and culture in the region. To preserve ethnic tribal culture, establishment of tribal museums in the states are encouraged. Moreover, events for promotion of art and culture of NER were also taken up. Some of projects which were closed/completed during 2017-18 are:

- i. Documentation and Digitalization of Cultural heritage of all tribes of Arunachal Pradesh.
- ii. Support for Musical Instruments & Teaching of Music to School Children, Imphal, Manipur.

Also, support was extended for the following major festivals for promotion of art and culture in the North Eastern Region:

- i. Training-cum-Festival of Theatre for the Young at Guwahati and Shillong
- ii. Brahmaputra Valley Film Festival 2017, Assam at Guwahati
- iii. Indian Council for Cultural Relation (ICCR) for organizing Dance and Music of North East India at Bhutan
- iv. Indigenous Music Festival at Dimapur implemented by Abiogenesis Society

#### **Medical and Health Sector:**

The NEC has been supporting the establishment of many regional health institutes of importance to the general public. Moreover, the NEC has also been supporting in procurement of medical equipment, hospital furniture, office furniture and operation theatres of many hospitals in all the eight states of NER. Some of projects which were completed during 2017-18 are:

- i. Procurement of Advanced Medical Devices and Equipment at Sky Hospital and Research Centre, Imphal, Manipur.

- ii. Establishment of 5 bedded ICU, HDU, Dialysis Unit & Major OT Up-gradation of Woodland Nursing Home, Mokokchung, Mokokchung District, Nagaland.
- iii. Procurement of Dental Chairs, Equipment and Dental Lab. Facilities at STNM Hospital, Gangtok Hospitals and PHCs in Sikkim.
- iv. Construction of X-Ray Block, Kitchen and Garage cum Seminar Room in selected PHCs, Sikkim.
- v. Up-gradation of Cancer Hospital, Agartala.

**Power Sector:**

NEC has so far contributed about 9202.02 circuit km(5482.44 Ckm-Central Sector+3719.58 Ckm-NE State Government) in transmission and distribution networks with 1407.20 MVA(590 MVA-Central Sector+817.20MVA-NE State Government) transformation addition capacity in the region since inception, out of which 641.50 circuitkm and 200.1 MVA have been completed after 66<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting. Some of projects which were closed/completed during 2017-18 are:

- i. Construction of 33/11KV, 2X1 MVA, Sub-Station at Pistana, Lower Subansiri District, Arunachal Pradesh.
- ii. Construction of 33/11 KV, 2X1 MVA, Sub-Station at Pania including construction of 33 KV Express Line from Palin to Pania, Arunachal Pradesh.
- iii. Construction of 132 KV D/C Transmission Line from Hoz to Itanagar(20 km) including 2X20 MVA, 132/33 KV Sub-Station at Chimpu, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh.
- iv. Construction of 33 KV Express Line from Changlang Power Sub-Station to Khimiyang including providing of 2X1 MVA, 33/11 KV Power Sub-Station at Khimiyang, Arunachal Pradesh.
- v. Installation of 220/132 KV, 1X100 MVA Auto Transformer at Agia(Assam) for Meghalaya.
- vi. Construction of 132/33 KV, 2X20 MVA S/s at Mendipathar(Ph-II), East Garo Hills District, Meghalaya.
- vii. Construction of 33 KV line from Byrnihat to Nongpoh with a provision for double circuit line, Meghalaya.
- viii. Construction of 132/33 KV, 2X20 MVA Sub-Station at Mendipathar, Meghalaya.
- ix. Construction of 1X2.5 MVA, 33/11 KN S/s at Buarpui Tawipui 'N' and Saiphai with associated lines, Mizoram.
- x. Strengthening of 33/11 KV Sub-Station at Vairengte and Thingsulthliah, Mizoram.
- xi. Construction of SLDC Building at Nagarjan, Dimapur, Nagaland.
- xii. Construction of 33 KV Transmission Lines, 33/11 KV S/s , 11/0.4 KV Distribution Sub-Station and LT Lines in Kohima, Nagaland.

## **Science & Technology Sector:**

Some of projects which were closed/completed during 2017-18 are:

- i. Preparatory Equipment under Management of Natural Calamities for the State of Nagaland.
- ii. IT Education Programme for 50 Schools in Meghalaya.
- iii. Assessment & Conservation of Microbial Bio-Diversity in Sacred Groves with reference to plant growth promoting bacillus related genera as influenced by environmental degradation, NEHU, Meghalaya.
- iv. Development of IT Infrastructure Computerization & Networking for Planning & Co-ordination Department, Nagaland.
- v. Manipur Remote Sensing Application Schemes(MARSAC), Manipur.
- vi. IT Application-Intelligent Character Recognition(ICR) System, Guwahati University, Guwahati(ICR).
- vii. Automation of Manual Inner Line Permit System, Arunachal Pradesh.
- viii. Computerization of Cadastral Maps in Lunglei District, Mizoram.
- ix. Geo-Resources of Kohima and Dimapur Urban Areas of Nagaland.
- x. Online/Realtime Seismic Network for Disaster Mitigation in North East India, NEIST, Jorhat RRL, Assam.
- xi. Research, Development, Documentation, Conservation of Wild Edible, Aromatic and Medicinal Plants of Arunachal Pradesh and Adjoining States of the Region, NERIST, Arunachal Pradesh.
- xii. Studies on Diversity Taxonomy and Population Status of Endemic & Rare Medicinal Plants for Promotion of Conservation in Arunachal Pradesh, NERIST, Arunachal Pradesh.

## **Transport & Communication Sector:**

NEC has put maximum emphasis on the Transport and Communication Sector. So far, 10,911.58kms.of roads including inter-state and roads of economic importance have been constructed by NEC. During 2017-18, Formation(F)=98.00 kms, Pavement(P)=85.00 kms of ongoing 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>Plan road schemes have been completed. Some of projects which were closed/completed during 2017-18 are:

- i. Improvement of Sangkhola-Zingla-Martam Road – 17 km
- ii. Improvement of Agartala-Mohanpur-Chebri Road– 54 km
- iii. Laimekuri-Nari-Telem-Rema Road – 61 km
- iv. Keitum-Artahkawn Road – 34 km
- v. Saitual-Phullen Road – 60 km
- vi. Saitual-Saichal-NE Bualpui Road – 36 km
- vii. Longding-Nokjan Road – 9.81 km
- viii. Kangpokpi-Tamei Road – 70.25 km
- ix. Tamenlong-Tamei – 49.75 km

- x. Mairang-Ranigodown-Azra Road – 81.50 km

**North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project(NERCORMP) for Upland Areas:**

The NERCORMP was established as a joint livelihood project of the North Eastern Council(NEC), Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, Government of India and International Fund for Agriculture Development(IFAD), a specialized agency of the United Nations headquartered in Rome. The overall objective of the project is ‘to improve the livelihood of vulnerable groups in a sustainable manner through improved management of their resource base in a way that contributes to preservation and restoration of the environment’.

The project aims to synergize the best strengths of the government, international organisation, a dedicated project management team, local NGOs and inherent potential and genius of local communities. This approach has paid off today. NERCORMP is gradually being recognized as sound development model for the North East. The project adopts a holistic approach of development with two broad focus areas, viz; (i) social mobilization and capacity building to tap and realize great latent potential of communities by employing time tested traditional value systems and culture, (ii) intervene with economic and social activities and infrastructure with predominant thrust on income generating activities to achieve economic transformation.

Currently, NERCORMP operates in 4 States covering 10 districts viz; Arunachal Pradesh(undivided Tirap including Longding and Changlang), Assam(KarbiAnglong and DimaHasao), Manipur( Ukhrul, Senapati, Churachandpur and Chandel) and Meghalaya(West Garo Hills and West Khasi Hills).

The project has been able to cover a total 2640 villages in the 4 states benefitting 1,18,843 households(in three phases). The project has also supported formation of 8326 Self-Help Groups(SHG) and 2960 Natural Resource Management Groups(NaRMG). Through the support from NERCORMP, these community based organisations(CBO) are working together with all the community members to bring about a sustainable livelihood for the village and society as whole.

I have a great pleasure to inform the Hon’ble Members that NERCORMP-II was awarded with the “**Best Project Completion Report(PCR) Award 2017**” globally by IFAD. One of the SHG leaders, **Ms. Ringyuichon Vashum**, Credit Manager, Ukhrul District Women Institute of Micro-credit (UDWIM) was awarded “**Nari Shakti Puruskar Award**” on the International Women’s Day, March 8, 2017 for women empowerment.

A project-proposal on value-chain development project of North East-(NERCORMP-IV), a joint project of NEC, M/o DoNER, Government of India and IFAD with an estimated cost of Rs.770.00 Crore is under process of consideration for implementing in the States of Assam, Manipur and Meghalaya.

**(VIII) STATISTICAL TABLES:**

**Table 1: NEC Sector-wise Expenditure During 2017-18**

**(Rs. in Lakh)**

Sl. No.	SECTOR	B.E. 2017-18	R.E. 2017-18	Total Expenditure	% of Total Expenditure
[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]
1	Agriculture & Allied	21698.00	18875.13	18874.13	99.99
2	Power and RRE	6200.00	9880.52	9880.52	100.00
3	Irrigation, Flood Control & WSM	3850.00	8690.14	8660.14	99.65
4	Industries	4025.00	3257.43	3257.43	100.00
5	Tourism	4737.00	3589.78	3588.42	99.96
6	Transport & Communication	45051.50	54989.21	40173.27	73.06
7	Medical & Health	2610.00	3000.00	3000.00	100.00
8	Human Resource Development & Employment	13700.00	16134.82	16134.82	100.00
9	Science & Technology	3185.50	2779.60	2779.60	100.00
10	Information, Publicity & Public Relations	1892.00	3037.22	3001.86	98.84
11	Evaluation & Monitoring	551.00	333.00	285.71	85.80
	<b>GRAND TOTAL :</b>	<b>107500.00</b>	<b>124566.85</b>	<b>109635.90</b>	<b>88.01</b>

**Table 2 - Sector-wise Expenditure Break-up on Ongoing & New Projects(2017-18):**  
**(Rs. in Lakh)**

Sl. No.	SECTOR	Releases Made During FY 2017-18				
		Ongoing	%	New	%	TOTAL
1	Agriculture & Allied	10774.45	57.09	8099.69	42.91	18874.13
2	Power and RRE	8030.52	81.28	1850.00	18.72	9880.52
3	Irrigation, Flood Control & WSM	5370.24	62.01	3289.90	37.99	8660.14
4	Industries	1577.00	48.41	1680.43	51.59	3257.43
5	Tourism	1342.04	37.40	2246.38	62.60	3588.42
6	Transport & Communication	31759.77	79.06	8413.51	20.94	40173.27
7	Medical & Health	2307.00	76.90	693.00	23.10	3000.00
8	HRD & Employment	11255.10	69.76	4879.71	30.24	16134.82
9	Science & Technology	1621.65	58.34	1157.95	41.66	2779.60
10	IPR & Culture	1936.86	64.52	1065.00	35.48	3001.86
11	Evaluation & Monitoring	260.70	91.25	25.00	8.75	285.71
	<b>GRAND TOTAL :</b>	<b>76235.33</b>	<b>69.54</b>	<b>33400.57</b>	<b>30.46</b>	<b>109635.90</b>

**Table 3:Head-wise Break-Up of Allocation and Expenditure (2017-18)**  
(Rs. in Lakh)

Head	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate	Expenditure	Balance
MH 3601	48433.00	75858.03	75828.03	30.00
MH 2552	39567.00	29708.82	29623.80	85.02
MH 4552	19500.00	19000.00	4184.07	14815.93
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>107500.00</b>	<b>124566.85</b>	<b>109635.90</b>	<b>14930.95</b>

**Table 4(a): Sector-wise Number of Projects Closed/Completed During 2017-18**

Sl. No.	Sector	No. of Projects	Cost of the Project (Rs. Crore)
1	Agriculture & Allied	11	37.11
2	Power & RRE	15	146.27
3	IFC & WSM	14	62.32
4	Industries	13	63.42
5	Tourism	6	19.78
6	Transport & Communication	10	627.19
7	Medical & Health	42	212.74
8	HRD&E(Education& Social)	22	83.31
9	HRD&E(Sports)	15	54.62
10	Science & Technology	8	16.64
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>1323.40</b>

**Table 4 (b): State-wise Number of Projects Closed/Completed During 2017-18**

Sl. No.	State	No. of Projects	Cost of the Project(Rs. Crore)
1	Arunachal Pradesh	27	256.30
2	Assam	18	120.52
3	Manipur	17	239.80
4	Meghalaya	12	147.51
5	Mizoram	24	217.20
6	Nagaland	32	134.78
7	Sikkim	8	50.92
8	Tripura	14	144.13
9	Other Agencies	4	12.24
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>1323.40</b>



**Table 5: Status of Outstanding Utilization Certificates(As on 30-04-2018)**

Sl. No	State	No. of Outstanding UCs	Amount Pending(Rs.in Cr)
1	Arunachal Pradesh	46	62.12
2	Assam	45	55.54
3	Manipur	47	79.89
4	Meghalaya	21	31.57
5	Mizoram	13	11.35
6	Nagaland	21	22.13
7	Sikkim	20	19.52
8	Tripura	15	27.03
9	Other Agencies	56	93.50
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>402.65</b>

**Table 6 - Head-wise Budget Allocation for 2018-19**

Head	Budget Estimate (Rs.in Crore)
MH-3601	505.00
MH-2552	321.00
MH-4552	330.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1156.00</b>

**Table 7 - Allocation of Fund During Five Year Plan(Rs. in Crore)**

Five Year Plan	Approved Outlay (GBS)	Actual Allocation	Difference	Shortfall (%)
4 <sup>th</sup> to 9 <sup>th</sup> FYP	2450.00	2114.00	336.00	13.71
10 <sup>th</sup> FYP	3500.00	2511.50	988.50	28.24
11 <sup>th</sup> FYP	7394.00	3248.00	4146.00	56.07
12 <sup>th</sup> FYP	6108.00	3789.99	2318.01	37.95

**Table 8: Annual Allocation During 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan and Beyond(Rs. in Crore)**

Years	Allocation	Expenditure	Percentage of Annual Plan Released
2012-13(RE)	770.00	732.76	95.16
2013-14(RE)	700.00	698.05	99.72
2014-15(RE)	579.00	578.98	99.99
2015-16(RE)	772.20	764.82	99.04
2016-17(RE)	968.79	965.81	99.69
2017-18(RE)	1245.67	1096.36	88.01
Total	5035.66	4836.78	96.05

**Table 9: Annual Fund Availability of Projects During 12<sup>th</sup> FYP and beyond (Rs. in Crore)**

Year	Budget Allocation (Rs. in Crore)	Released Amount (Rs. in Crore)			Percentage (%) of Releases	
		New	Ongoing	Total	New	Ongoing
2012-13	770.00	280.54	452.22	732.76	38.29	61.71
2013-14	700.00	136.78	561.27	698.05	19.59	80.41
2014-15	579.00	67.98	511.00	578.98	11.74	88.26
2015-16	772.20	185.13	579.69	764.82	24.20	75.79
2016-17	968.79	327.72	638.08	965.81	33.93	66.07
2017-18	1245.67	334.00	762.36	1096.36	30.46	69.54
2018-19*	1156.00	2.63	52.04	54.67	4.81	95.19

**As on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018****Table 10: Status of Ongoing Projects as on 30.04.2018 (Rs in Lakhs)**

Sl. No.	Sector	No. of Projects	Approved Cost	NEC's Share	State's Share	NEC Release (Amount)	Utilization Receive (Amount)	% Utilization	State Share Release (Amount)	State Share Release (%)
1	Agri& Allied	131	130343.85	112384.29	17959.58	52699.05	26672.71	50.61	459.78	2.56
2	HRD&E(Edu& Social)	74	40176.00	38388.44	1787.56	20073.39	8119.91	40.45	213.61	11.95
3	HRD&E (Sports)	60	34493.47	32557.68	1935.80	15235.16	7487.81	49.15	652.86	33.73
4	IFC&WSM	71	43683.51	39425.16	4258.35	15148.27	7329.13	48.38	771.66	18.12
5	Industries	50	29753.14	27664.15	2029.10	15077.93	7112.17	47.17	738.62	36.40
6	IPR	25	10981.35	9943.10	1037.32	5866.68	2169.43	36.98	218.01	21.02
7	Medical & Health	20	15732.24	14162.86	1569.38	7890.45	5824.29	73.81	610.40	38.89
8	Power	35	44506.99	40056.28	4450.71	24649.50	18705.80	75.89	2387.08	53.63
9	S&T	68	21720.40	20631.80	1088.60	13585.50	9693.62	71.35	311.02	28.57
10	T&C	44	283108.75	248702.77	34405.98	188674.49	147202.73	78.02	13510.72	39.27
11	Tourism	60	25264.22	23131.76	2132.46	14596.59	8669.46	59.39	837.97	39.30
#	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>679763.92</b>	<b>607048.30</b>	<b>72654.83</b>	<b>373497.02</b>	<b>248987.06</b>	<b>66.66</b>	<b>20711.73</b>	<b>28.51</b>

**ANNEXURE – IV**

**Participants attending the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of NEC held on 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 at State Convention Centre, Pinewood Hotel, Shillong, Meghalaya**

**9<sup>th</sup> July, 2018**

1	Shri Rajnath Singh	Hon'ble Home Minister and Chairman, NEC
2	Dr. Jitendra Singh	Hon'ble Minister for DoNER (I/C) & Vice Chairman, NEC
<b>Members of the North Eastern Council</b>		
3	Shri B.D. Mishra	Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh
4	Prof. Jagdish Mukhi	Hon'ble Governor of Assam
5	Dr. Najma Heptulla	Hon'ble Governor of Manipur
6	Shri Ganga Prasad	Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya
7	Shri Kummanam Rajasekharan	Hon'ble Governor of Mizoram
8	Shri P.B. Acharya	Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland
9	Shri Shriniwas Patil	Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim
10	Shri Pema Khandu	Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh
11	Shri.Sarbananda Sonowal	Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam
12	Shri Conrad Sangma	Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya
13	Shri Lal Thanhawla	Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram
14	Shri Neiphiu Rio	Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland
15	Shri Biplab Kumar Deb	Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura
16	Shri Naveen Verma	Ex-officio Member, NEC
<b>Representatives of the Central Ministries and Institutes</b>		
17	Lt. Gen. Sukhdeep Sangwan, SM	Director General Assam Rifles
18	Shri Hari Krishna Paliwal	Advisor, Ministry of Home Affairs
19	Shri Satyendra Garg	Joint Secretary (NE), Ministry of Home Affairs
20	Shri Jitendra Kumar	Adviser, NITI Aayog
21	Shri Siddhanta Das	Director General of Forest and Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
22	Shri A.G. West Kharkongor	CMD, NEEPCO
23	Shri V.K. Singh	D (T), NEEPCO
24	Dr. Devesh Chaturvedi	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, GoI
25	Shri B.S. Rawat	Joint Secretary, D/o Science Technology, GoI
26	Shri Gyan Bhushan	Economic Adviser, M/o Tourism, GoI
27	Smti Anju Nigam	Joint Secretary, M/o Information & Broadcasting, GoI
28	Shri N.N. Sinha	Managing Director, National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (NHIDCL)
29	Shri Amarjeet Sinha	Secretary, Department of Rural Development

30	Shri Davinder Pal Singh	Dy. Secretary, D/o Higher Education, M/o HRD, GoI
31	Shri Sanjive Roy	GM, NF Railway, M/o Railway
32	Shri Naveen Prakash	Dy G.M. & Secretary to GM, NF Railway, M/o Railway
33	Shri N. Brahma	Chief Engineer (Con)/IX, NF Railway, M/o Railways
34	Shri S.M. Singh	CAO/Con 1, NF Railway, M/o Railway
35	Shri I.K. Pandey	ADG, M/o Road Transport & Highways
36	Shri Riten Kumar Singh	R.O, NER, M/o Road Transport & Highways, Guwahati
37	Shri D.K. Kamra	Regional Executive Director, AAI, M/o Civil Aviation
38	Shri Ramesh Prasad Singh	CGM/RO, NHAI, Guwahati
39	Shri Anand Kumar Singh	Member, National Highway Authority of India
40	Shri Tapan Kr. Sarma	Dy. General Manager, NEHDDCL, Guwahati
41	Shri K.S. Dhatwalia	DG (NE Zone), M/o Information & Broadcasting
42	Shri Rakesh Kumar	S.E. (Coord) B & BBO, CWC, M/o WR, RD & GR
	<b>ARUNACHAL PRADESH</b>	
43	Shri Satya Gopal	Chief Secretary, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
44	Shri Vinod P Kavle	Secretary to Governor, Arunachal Pradesh
45	Shri Himanshu Gupta	Spl. Secretary (Planning), Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
46	Shri Tabe Haidar	Nodal Officer, NEC, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
	<b>ASSAM</b>	
47	Shri T.Y. Das	Chief Secretary, Govt. of Assam
48	Shri Sanjiv Kumar Gohain Boruah	Secretary to Governor of Assam
49	Shri Sanjay Lohiya	Principal Secretary to CM, Assam
50	Smt L.S. Changsan	Principal Secretary to Govt. of Assam, Home & Political Border etc
51	Dr. J.B. Ekka	Principal Secretary, Panchayat and Rural Development Deptt., Govt. of Assam
52	Smti Banti Devi	Additional Director, Transformation & Development Department, Govt. of Assam
	<b>MANIPUR</b>	
53	Shri Th. Chittaranjan Singh	Secretary to Governor, Manipur
54	Shri Sumant Singh	Secretary, Planning & OSD to Chief Minister, Manipur
55	Dr. Th. Munindro Singh	Director, Planning Deptt., Govt. of Manipur
56	Smti N. Kulkarani Devi	Joint Director, Planning Deptt., Govt. of Manipur
	<b>MEGHALAYA</b>	
57	Shri Yesi Tsering	Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalaya
58	Smti Rebecca V. Suchiang	Principal Secretary, Planning Deptt., Govt. of Meghalaya
59	Shri P. Bakshi	Secretary, Planning & Finance Department, Government of Meghalaya

60	Shri C.V.D. Diengdoh	Joint Secretary, Planning & Finance Department, Government of Meghalaya
61	Shri Arunkumar Kembhavi	Director, Community and Rural Development, Govt. of Meghalaya
	<b>MIZORAM</b>	
62	Dr. C. Vanlalramsanga	Secretary, Planning & Programme Implementation Department, Govt. of Mizoram
63	Ms. C. Lalnunsiami	Research Officer, Planning & Programme Implementation Department, Govt. of Mizoram
	<b>NAGALAND</b>	
64	Shri Saroj Kumar Sahoo	Joint Secretary to Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland
65	Shri K. Issac	OSD to Hon'ble Governor
66	Shri Sentiyanger Imchen	Principal Secretary & Development Commissioner, Government of Nagaland
	Shri Nosazol Charles	Addl. Development Commissioner, Government of Nagaland
67	<b>SIKKIM</b>	
68	Shri Sonam Lepcha	Secretary, Planning, Government of Sikkim
69	Shri Jigme Basi	Deputy Secretary, Planning Department, Govt. of Sikkim
	<b>TRIPURA</b>	
70	Shri Sanjeev Ranjan	Chief Secretary, Government of Tripura
	<b>INSTITUTES/ ORGANIZATION</b>	
71	Dr. Shailendra Chaudhari	Managing Director, NERCORMP
72	Shri B. Paul Muktieh	Chairman & Managing Director, NEDFi, Guwahati
73	Shri P.L.N. Raju	Director, NESAC, Umiam, Shillong, Meghalaya
74	Dr. K.K. Sarma	Scientist – 'S', NESAC, Department of SPACE
75	Shri Hara Kumar Hajong,	Project Director, NERLP
76	Prof. Keya Sengupta	Director, IIM, Shillong
77	Shri Pankaj K. Prasad	Managing Director, NERAMAC
78	Prof. Ramagopal Uppaluri	Deptt of Chemical Engineering, IIT, Guwahati
79	Shri K. Hrishikesh Singh	Director (Admn), NERCORMP
	<b>MINISTRY OF DONER</b>	
80	Smti Jhanja Tripathy	Joint Secretary and Financial Adviser, M/o DoNER
81	Shri S.N. Pradhan	Joint Secretary, M/o DoNER
82	Smt. Mamta Shankar	Economic Adviser, Ministry of DoNER
83	Shri Ravindra Choudhary	Director, Ministry of DoNER.
84	Dr. Harmeet Singh	Director, Ministry of DoNER.
85	Shri Vishnu Mahajan	Asst. Secretary, Ministry of DoNER
86	Shri Vivek Bhasme	Asst. Secretary, Ministry of DoNER
	<b>NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL</b>	
87	Shri Ram Muivah	Secretary, NEC
88	Shri C.H. Kharshiing	Planning Adviser, NEC
89	Shri W. Synrem	Economic Adviser (E&M), NEC
90	Shri Gautam Chintey	Adviser (Banking Industries & Tourism), NEC

91	Shri M. Iboyaima Meitei	Adviser (Horti), NEC
92	Shri Gopal Chetri	Adviser (IFC & WSM), NEC
93	Shri D.L. Wankhar	Director (Planning), NEC
94	Shri Kh. Siile Anthony	Director (HRD & E), NEC
95	Shri L. Beimopha	Deputy Secretary (Admn), NEC
96	Shri B. Thawng Sian Dong	Dy. Financial Adviser, NEC
97	Shri Doba Jini	S.E. (C), NEC
98	Shri Joseph Lanah	Research Officer (Planning), NEC
99	Shri Ningthoujam Ajit Singh	Asst. Research Officer (Planning), NEC
100	Dr. Sanabam Sujen Singh	STA (Science & Technology), NEC
101	Shri Joseph Syiem	DEO, NEC

**Participants attending the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of NEC held on 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 at State Convention Centre, Pinewood Hotel, Shillong, Meghalaya**

**10<sup>th</sup> July, 2018**

1	Shri Rajnath Singh	Hon'ble Home Minister and Chairman, NEC
2	Dr. Jitendra Singh	Hon'ble Minister for DoNER (I/C) & Vice Chairman, NEC
<b>Members of the North Eastern Council</b>		
3	Shri B.D. Mishra	Hon'ble Governor of Arunachal Pradesh
4	Prof. Jagdish Mukhi	Hon'ble Governor of Assam
5	Dr. Najma Heptulla	Hon'ble Governor of Manipur
6	Shri Ganga Prasad	Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya
7	Shri Kummanam Rajasekharan	Hon'ble Governor of Mizoram
8	Shri P.B. Acharya	Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland
9	Shri Shriniwas Patil	Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim
10	Shri Pema Khandu	Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh
11	Shri Conrad Sangma	Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya
12	Shri Lal Thanhawla	Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram
13	Shri Neiphiu Rio	Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland
14	Shri Biplab Kumar Deb	Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura
15	Shri Naveen Verma	Ex-officio Member, NEC
16	Representatives of the Central Ministries and Institutes	
17	Lt. Gen. Sukhdeep Sangwan, SM	Director General Assam Rifles
18	Lt. Gen. R. Gopal	Indian Army, GOC, HQ 3 Corps
19	Colonel Ropinder Singh	COL GS (ops) HQ DGAR
20	Col. Babu Franers	COL MS, HQ 3 CORPS, M/o Defence
21	Capt Akash Sharma	ADC to DG Assam Rifles, M/o Home Affairs
22	Shri Hari Krishna Paliwal	Advisor, Ministry of Home Affairs
23	Shri Satyendra Garg	Joint Secretary (NE), Ministry of Home Affairs
24	Shri Jitendra Kumar	Adviser, NITI Aayog
25	Shri Siddhanta Das	Director General of Forest and Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
26	Shri A.G. West Kharkongor	CMD, NEEPCO
27	Shri V.K. Singh	D (T), NEEPCO
28	Dr. Devesh Chaturvedi	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, GoI
29	Shri B.S. Rawat	Joint Secretary, D/o Science Technology, GoI
30	Dr. Rajesh Kumar	Joint Secretary, M/o Women & Child Development
31	Shri Gyan Bhushan	Economic Adviser, M/o Tourism, GoI
32	Smti Anju Nigam	Joint Secretary, M/o Information & Broadcasting, GoI
33	Mr. Manoj Jhalani	Additional Secretary & MD, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

34	Shri N.N. Sinha	Managing Director, National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (NHIDCL)
35	Shri Amarjeet Sinha	Secretary, Department of Rural Development
36	Shri Davinder Pal Singh	Dy. Secretary, D/o Higher Education, M/o HRD, Gol
37	Shri Sanjive Roy	GM, NF Railway, M/o Railway
38	Shri Naveen Prakash	Dy G.M. & Secretary to GM, NF Railway, M/o Railway
39	Shri S.S. Khongrymmmai	Dy. Chief Engineer, Ministry of Railway, Gol
40	Shri N. Brahma	Chief Engineer (Con)/IX, NF Railway, M/o Railway
41	Shri S.M. Singh	CAO/Con 1, NF Railway, M/o Railway
42	Shri N. Brahma	Chief Engineer (Con)/IX, NF Railway, M/o Railway
43	Shri Anup Kumar Sharma	Dy CE (Con)/ G-I, NF Railway
44	Shri I.K. Pandey	ADG, M/o Road Transport & Highways
45	Shri Riten Kumar Singh	R.O, NER, M/o Road Transport & Highways, Guwahati
46	Shri D.K. Kamra	Regional Executive Director, AAI (NER), M/o Civil Aviation
47	Shri Ramesh Prasad Singh	CGM/RO, NHAI, (MoRTH), Guwahati
48	Shri Anand Kumar Singh	Member, National Highway Authority of India
49	Shri Tapan Kr. Sarma	Dy. General Manager, NEHDDCL, Guwahati
50	Shri K.S. Dhatwalia	DG (NE Zone), M/o Information & Broadcasting
51	Shri Rakesh Kumar	S.E. (Coord) B & BBO, CWC, M/o WR, RD & GR
	<b>ARUNACHAL PRADESH</b>	
52	Shri Satya Gopal	Chief Secretary, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
53	Shri Vinod P Kavle	Secretary to Governor, Arunachal Pradesh
54	Shri S. Chombay	Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Arunachal Pradesh
55	Shri Himanshu Gupta	Spl. Secretary (Planning), Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
56	Shri Tabe Haidar	Nodal Officer, NEC, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
	<b>ASSAM</b>	
57	Shri T.Y. Das	Chief Secretary, Govt. of Assam
58	Shri Sanjiv Kumar Gohain Boruah	Secretary to Governor of Assam
59	Shri Sanjay Lohiya	Principal Secretary to CM, Assam
60	Smt L.S. Changsan	Principal Secretary to Govt. of Assam, Home & Political Border etc
61	Dr. J.B. Ekka	Principal Secretary, Panchayat and Rural Development Deptt., Govt. of Assam
62	Smti Banti Devi	Additional Director, Transformation & Development Department, Govt. of Assam
	<b>MANIPUR</b>	
63	Shri Th. Chittaranjan Singh	Secretary to Governor, Manipur



64	Shri Badruddin Khan	Private Secretary to Hon'ble Governor, Manipur
65	Shri Sumant Singh	Secretary, Planning & OSD to Chief Minister, Manipur
66	Dr. Th. Munindro Singh	Director, Planning Deptt., Govt. of Manipur
67	Smti N. Kulkarani Devi	Joint Director, Planning Deptt., Govt. of Manipur
	<b>MEGHALAYA</b>	
68	Shri Yeshi Tsering	Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalaya
69	Smti Rebecca V. Suchiang	Principal Secretary, Planning Deptt., Govt. of Meghalaya
70	Shri T. Dkhar	Commissioner & Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Govt. of Meghalaya
71	Shri P. Bakshi	Secretary, Planning & Finance Department, Government of Meghalaya
72	Shri C.V.D. Diengdoh	Joint Secretary, Planning & Finance Department, Government of Meghalaya
73	Shri Arunkumar Kembhavi	Director, Community and Rural Development, Govt. of Meghalaya
74	Shri Robert Lyngdoh	Deputy Secretary, Planning Department, Govt. of Meghalaya
	<b>MIZORAM</b>	
75	Shri Lalngaihzuala	PS to Hon'ble Governor, Mizoram
76	Dr. C. Vanlalramsanga	Secretary, Planning & Programme Implementation Department, Govt. of Mizoram
77	Ms. C. Lalnunsiami	Research Officer, Planning & Programme Implementation Department, Govt. of Mizoram
	<b>NAGALAND</b>	
78	Shri Saroj Kumar Sahoo	Joint Secretary to Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland
79	Shri K. Issac	OSD to Hon'ble Governor
80	Shri L. Kire	Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Nagaland
81	Shri Sentiyanger Imchen	Principal Secretary & Development Commissioner, Government of Nagaland
82	Shri Nosazol Charles	Addl. Development Commissioner, Government of Nagaland
	<b>SIKKIM</b>	
83	Shri Sonam Lepcha	Secretary, Planning, Government of Sikkim
84	Shri Jigme Basi	Deputy Secretary, Planning Department, Govt. of Sikkim
	<b>TRIPURA</b>	
85	Shri Sanjeev Ranjan	Chief Secretary, Government of Tripura
	<b>INSTITUTES/ ORGANIZATION</b>	
86	Dr. Shailendra Chaudhari	Managing Director, NERCORMP
87	Shri B. Paul Muktieh	Chairman & Managing Director, NEDFi, Guwahati
88	Shri P.L.N. Raju	Director, NESAC, Umiam, Shillong, Meghalaya
89	Dr. K.K. Sarma	Scientist – 'S', NESAC, Department of SPACE

90	Shri Hara Kumar Hajong,	Project Director, NERLP
91	Prof. Keya Sengupta	Director, IIM, Shillong
92	Shri Pankaj K. Prasad	Managing Director, NERAMAC
93	Prof. Ramagopal Uppaluri	Deptt of Chemical Engineering, IIT, Guwahati
94	Shri K. Hrishikesh Singh	Director (Admn), NERCORMP
	<b>MINISTRY OF DONER</b>	
95	Smti Jhanja Tripathy	Joint Secretary and Financial Adviser, M/o DoNER
96	Shri S.N. Pradhan	Joint Secretary, M/o DoNER
97	Smt. Mamta Shankar	Economic Adviser, Ministry of DoNER
98	Shri Ravindra Choudhary	Director, Ministry of DoNER.
99	Dr. Harmeet Singh	Director, Ministry of DoNER.
100	Shri Vishnu Mahajan	Asst. Secretary, Ministry of DoNER
101	Shri Vivek Bhasme	Asst. Secretary, Ministry of DoNER
	<b>NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL</b>	
102	Shri Ram Muivah	Secretary, NEC
103	Shri C.H. Kharshiing	Planning Adviser, NEC
104	Shri W. Synrem	Economic Adviser (E&M), NEC
105	Shri Gautam Chintey	Adviser (Banking Industries & Tourism), NEC
106	Shri M. Iboyaima Meitei	Adviser (Horti), NEC
107	Shri Gopal Chetri	Adviser (IFC & WSM), NEC
108	Shri D.L. Wankhar	Director (Planning), NEC
109	Shri Kh. Siile Anthony	Director (HRD & E), NEC
110	Shri L. Beimopha	Deputy Secretary (Admn), NEC
111	Shri B. Thawng Sian Dong	Dy. Financial Adviser, NEC
112	Shri Doba Jini	S.E. (C), NEC
113	Shri Joseph Lanah	Research Officer (Planning), NEC
114	Shri Ningthoujam Ajit Singh	Asst. Research Officer (Planning), NEC
115	Dr. Sanabam Sujen Singh	STA (Science & Technology), NEC
116	Shri Joseph Syiem	DEO, NEC

**SPEECHES OF HON'BLE MEMBERS OF NEC**



सत्यमेव जयते

**SPEECH**

**OF**

**Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.)**

**HON'BLE GOVERNOR**

**OF**

**ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

**67<sup>th</sup> PLENARY OF**

**NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL**

**AT**

**SHILLONG**

**ON**

**9<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

**Hon'ble Chairman, North Eastern Council, Shri Rajnath Singh Ji.**  
**Hon'ble Vice Chairman, North Eastern Council, Shri Jitendra Singh Ji**  
**Hon'ble Governors of North-Eastern States,**  
**Hon'ble Chief Ministers of North-Eastern States,**  
**Respected Members of NEC,**  
**Learned Secretary, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region,**  
**Learned Secretary NEC,**  
**Learned Secretaries of Government of India,**  
**Senior Officers from Government of India and State Government,**  
**Brothers and Sisters.**

It is indeed a proud privilege for me to participate in this august gathering and address the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting of the North Eastern Council (NEC).

I convey my appreciation to the esteemed members and officials of NEC and Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) for organizing this very important meeting. I am confident that the meeting will deliberate on the bottlenecks affecting the development of the North Eastern Region and bring out a comprehensive strategy for accelerating inclusive development in the entire region.

North Eastern Council has worked tirelessly in last 46 years for the socio-economic development of the North Eastern Region. This esteemed institution has contributed immensely in various sectors like education, healthcare, agriculture, horticulture, tourism, regional connectivity etc.

Under the visionary leadership of our Prime Minister, Sri Narendra Modi Ji, the Government of India has reinvigorated the policy orientation towards the North-East. I recall the words on Hon'ble Prime Minister during the 65<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session of NEC "If the Western region of the country can develop, if other regions of the country can develop, I see no reason why the North East region of the country cannot develop. I am also convinced that India can move forward if all the regions develop including the North East region. The North East region is also very important to us for strategic reasons. And it is my conviction that we have to bring this region at par with the other developed regions of the country." Thus, Government of India is putting all out efforts in bringing North Eastern region at par with rest of India with increased emphasis on Act East Policy. Thus, time has come that North Eastern Council expands its outreach from its present role of funding projects to act as a think tank and highest policy making body for the North-Eastern Region monitoring all the investments and development in the North-Eastern Region.

Now, I would like to address some important issues which pertain to not only my frontier State of Arunachal Pradesh but are akin to all the North Eastern States.

**1. Bottle-neck in Connectivity:** Connectivity is the most important parameter of measurement of development of any region. Connectivity comprises of road, railways, airways, waterways as well as telecommunication. As of now, entire North Eastern Region is

lagging behind in all fronts. Due to terrain difficulty and historical backwardness, the entire North-Eastern region has been left behind in major development indices.

It is a known fact that Government of India under the leadership of Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi ji has focused on Act East Policy. For achieving the desired outcomes in its true sense, it requires participation of the NER in the Act East Policy to be carefully coordinated so that integration is not just physical and a matter of chance but is orchestrated in such an emphatic way that there is a greater sense of participation across the region. The NER has to be a building block for success of Act East Policy and for that the governments, firms and people of the NER must see opportunities and scope for their own gain and growth. I would now like to speak on individual components of connectivity.

(a) **Road:** Arunachal Pradesh has the largest area amongst all the North Eastern States with a road density of approximately 20 kilometers per 100 square kilometers. This is very less as compared to the national average of 82. Not only is the road density low but also percentage of surface roads is less.

The cost of construction is very high in Arunachal Pradesh as compared to other states as 80% of the State area is mountainous with deep gorges, steep hills, rocky ridges and turbulent rivers accompanied with un-surmountable hostile environment. These factors lead to escalation of costs as well as delay in completion of projects.

There are 3 important road projects which if completed can change the development discourse of our state. These are the 1500 Km Trans Arunachal highway, Arunachal Frontier Highway and East West Corridor.

Ongoing project of Trans Arunachal highway connects all the District Headquarters and important towns running through the middle of the State from East to West. The progress of Trans Arunachal Highway has been slow due to geomorphology of the region leading to massive landslides and limited working season of 6 months. However, 40% of the works have been completed in most of the stretches. We are hopeful that majority of the projects under Trans Arunachal Highway will get completed by 2020. I would also request National Highway Authority of India Limited (NHIDCL) to expedite the projects under Trans Arunachal Highway.

Our state has also conceived a strategic road network project along the International Border "Arunachal Frontier Highway" which will strengthen mobility of our security forces as well as provide state of the art road infrastructure along the International Borders. The Arunachal Frontiers Highway will connect most of the villages and administrative centers in the Northern region within 0-10 Km of the International boundary. This will also help in arresting stress migration of population from the sensitive Indo-China border. I appeal to the Ministry of Home Affairs to expedite survey and investigation works of this crucial project. I also appeal to the NEC to become partner in building this strategically vital project a great success.

The third important road project is the East West Corridor. The proposed East West Corridor from Bairabkhund (popular picnic spot in Udalguri district in the State of

Assam) to Ruksin near Pasighat will be a huge boost in improving connectivity in the lower reaches of the State. Since the region is located along the Assam border, it will also enable people of Arunachal Pradesh to move from one district to another without having to enter Assam.

These three infrastructure projects once completed will change the development course of our state. They will not only usher the economic revolution in our state but will also be very strategic from security point of view.

**(b) Rail Connectivity:** As of now, the penetration of railways in Arunachal Pradesh is limited to our state capital Itanagar. We have 3 trains running which are Shatabdi Express from Naharlagun to Guwahati, Donyi Polo express which is an overnight train to Guwahati and Naharlagun-Anand Vihar, New Delhi, 'Arunachal Express'.

I on behalf of People of Arunachal Pradesh extend my deepest gratitude to our visionary leader Shri Narendra Modi Ji for converting the weekly train from Itanagar to New Delhi to bi-weekly and would request Railway Ministry to make it a daily train keeping in mind demands of the travelers. This will immensely benefit our students, patients, common public and Government employees

It is very heartening to know that the Union Government under Modi ji's dynamic leadership is planning to build railway lines up to Tawang, Aalo and Parashuramkund. It will facilitate in promoting regional tourism and pilgrims to religious places like Parasuramhund, Tawang Monastery, Malinithan, etc.

**(c) Air Connectivity :** I am thankful to hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji, and Union Civil Aviation Ministry who have gone extra mile to start the civil flights from Passighat Airport. With this, Arunachal Pradesh has also come on the map of Civil Aviation in India. However, this is just the starting point for our state.

NEC funded Tezu airport implemented by Airports Authority of India(AAI) is nearing completion and I request the Central Government through this forum to immediately start Commercial flight service from Tezu airport which has been approved under UDAAN –II scheme. It will help connect the far Eastern district of Lohit, Namsai, Anjaw Lower Dibang Valley and Changlang with rest of the country.

Under UDAAN-II scheme, we will also be getting low cost helicopter services to 6 ALGs which are Along, Itanagar, Tuting, Walong, Yingkiong and Ziro which will strengthen the connectivity to these far flung areas.

State Government has also launched CM Air Connectivity scheme to provide external infrastructure to the ALGs and airports which have come under UDAAN-II. I would urge NEC to provide additional assistance to provide external infrastructure to such ALGs.

**(d) Information Technology:** My State Government has taken many important initiatives under e-Governance. Now our state secretariat has e-wifi services and e-cabinet.

We have also launched e-inner line permit and service plus which provides digitally signed certificates. Apart from that, CM Dashboard has been launched in the state to infuse competitive spirit among the districts and implementing agencies. Department of Planning has also developed Arunachal Satellite Based Geotagging System for geo-tagging all infrastructure projects specially pertaining to NEC and NESIDS scheme.

Through this forum, I would like to thank the Ministry of Communications and IT, Government of India which will be investing Rs. 1739 Crores to set up approximately 1900 telecom towers in Arunachal Pradesh. This will give a major boost to telecommunication sector in our state.

**2. Hydropower:** The State of Arunachal Pradesh is bestowed with many massive rivers. As a result, there is tremendous scope for exploiting hydropower potential in the State. By a rough estimate, the State has a potential to harness around 50.000MW of hydropower.

The Government of Arunachal Pradesh has already signed various MoUs with many Government and Private sector players for harnessing up this potential. However, it has been learnt that majority of the private players have not been able to complete the projects. State Government has taken an important decision to terminate such projects which have exceeded their timelines and is willing to hand over such projects to PSUs. This will be a win situation for both the state government and the PSUs working under Hydro Power Sector.

**3. Tourism:** Tourism plays a vital role in the economic development of a State or country. In India it is the one of the largest foreign exchange earners. The tourism industry employs a large number of people, both skilled and unskilled. It promotes national integration and international brotherhood.

NER has immense opportunity in tourism for employment generation, entrepreneurship and revenues. There is a need for innovative projects in tourism and increasing the standard of hospitality service, especially since tourists look for unusual experiences and roadside amenities among others.

The State of Arunachal Pradesh is an unexplored region which has huge tourism potential. It is one of the most beautiful tourist hot-spots of the country. North Eastern Council had recently changed its guidelines to focus on tourism in the NER. Regional tourism has now been identified as one of the focused areas of NEC. This is a very positive step which will surely lead to improvement of tourism infrastructure in the state. Our tourism is not restricted to mere natural sightseeing but also has scope of developing spiritual tourism, eco-tourism, cultural tourism, Adventure tourism including development of special tourist's circuits like Buddhist Circuit / Krishna Circuit.

There is a scope for promotion of a new Buddhist Tourism Network to attract tourists from Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam to Buddhist pilgrimage centres in Sikkim, Nepal, Bhutan along with Gaya and Lumbini.



**4. Skill Development:** The performance of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) is lagging behind in our state due to lack of good training providers. We have experienced that training providers do not prefer coming to our state due to high operational costs. Further, there are limited jobs in the private sector in our state.

Our State Government is focusing on providing high end skill development training courses to the youths so that they can get high end jobs across the country. For, this purpose, CM Yuva Kaushal Yojana scheme has been launched this year with an outlay of Rs. 20 Crores.

Due to lack of jobs in Arunachal Pradesh, the skill training courses are not able to translate into meaningful jobs for the youths. For this purpose, there is a need to develop courses focusing on inherent capabilities of the state which are tourism, hospitality sector, IT services and agriculture/horticulture processing.

I urge Ministry of DoNER and NEC to come together and devise job linked high end training programs for the youths of North Eastern region to address the most important issue of unemployment.

**5. Border Area Development:** Border Area Development is a very important aspect as far as Arunachal Pradesh is concerned. My state shares an International Boundary of 1080 kms with China, 440 kms with Mynmar and 160 kms with Bhutan. The border areas require special attention as they act as the first line of defence for any country.

Development of the border districts will go a long way in creation of “Happy Border” which is one of the ways of realising the “Act East Policy”.

I am thankful to MHA for running a very important and strategic program that is Border Area Development Program (BADP). Arunachal Pradesh has 14 districts on International boundaries and roughly 20% of the population lives in border areas in 0-20 kilometers from IB.

Due to lack of basic amenities and opportunities in health, drinking water, Rural Roads etc., there is a huge migration from the border areas to the plains for better livelihood. This adverse trend has to be averted by all means.

My State Government has submitted a plan for additional package under BADP to fill in basic infrastructure in border areas. I would urge Hon’ble Home Minister Sh. Rajnath Singh ji to accord the approval to this additional package which will go a long way in improving the border infrastructure of the region.

**6. Health care:** Arunachal Pradesh has taken a major leap forward due to starting of new Medical College at Tomo Riba Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (TRIHMS) Naharlagun from this year. I would like to thank Hon’ble Prime Minister and Health Minister to accord approval for operationalization of TRIHMS with 50 MBBS Students. I request Government of India to increase the number of seats in the Medical College to at least 100 from the next year.

Considering the nascent state of health infrastructure in Arunachal Pradesh in comparison to other NE states I would request NEC to provide additional allocation of Rs. 50.00 Crore for establishment of Medi City at Pachin, Naharlagun. The Medi City at Pachin will serve as an important hub for all sorts of critical and tertiary care facilities in Arunachal Pradesh.

**7. Education Sector:** Our State needs substantial improvement in the education sector. Our pass percentage in Class XII this year was 44% which is abysmally low. There is a need to introspect and address the problem immediately as this is affecting the future of our state. I must mention that my State Government has taken many new initiatives this year in the Education Sector. To decentralize the planning of resources in Education Sector, Rs. 100 Crores have been kept under CM Samast Shiksha Yojana under which District Level Plans will be made to address the quality of education and infrastructure issues in the schools.

This year my State will also be conducting Talent Hunt Examination on the lines of NTSE to identify meritorious students in Class VI, to provide them scholarship and nurturing their talent.

I, on behalf of the State Government extend my heartfelt gratitude to Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble Defence Minister for sanctioning Sainik School at Niglok in East Siang District. This is the first Sainik School in Arunachal Pradesh which will be starting from this year. Since the entire cost of infrastructure and running cost has to be borne by the State Government, I urge North Eastern Council to provide additional fund of Rs. 50.00 Crore to make this lone Sainik School with State of the Art Infrastructure.

Similarly, in education sector, the state cannot boast of any reputed educational institutions like IITs, IIMs etc. As a result, the students face problem while pursuing higher education. North Eastern Council may explore the possibility of establishment of regional important educational institution in the State of Arunachal Pradesh in the same lines of IITs/IIMs.

I would also urge NEC to open a **strategic policy research cell in Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar** which can deal with border related issues across the North-Eastern region on the same lines of The APJ Abdul Kalam Centre for Policy Research and Analysis set up by NEC in IIM Shillong.

## **YOUTH EMPOWERMENT**

There is a need to empower youths of our state as they are the future of our society. However, due to paucity of employment opportunities, most of them remain unemployed. This also leads to the problem of drug addiction as many unemployed youth fall into the trap of drug addiction.

For this purpose, my State Government has launched Nasha Mukti Abhiyan where focus is on creation of multiple drug rehabilitation centers in the state. However, our state is struggling in engaging agencies which can administer and rehabilitate drug addicts. I

would urge NEC to find a solution to this problem in consultation with Health Ministry, Skill Development Ministry and other stakeholders.

Arunachal Pradesh also has a great potential in sports. Majority of the youth are very fit and athletic. In this regard, we need sport facilities, youth centres, skill and entrepreneur avenues to channelize the youthful energies. I request the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Ministry of Human Resource Development to address the requirements. And I again request NEC to provide fund for establishment of 5 (five) State of Art Football Institutes and 5 (Five) Music Institutes in the State. To start with, NEC may provide Rs. 100 Crores for establishing 5 Football Institutes in the state.

### **TRIBAL CULTURE**

Arunachal Pradesh has 26 major tribes and more than 100 sub tribes with their unique and distinct tribal culture. All the tribes live together in peace and harmony. However, with increasing globalization and people's movement to urban cities, the traditional cultural practices are waning. There is a need to preserve the rich traditional culture of Arunachal Pradesh. The traditional culture includes rich practices followed by tribals like, folk dances, traditional cuisines, folklores, traditional handicrafts and healing practices.

I would suggest Ministry of DoNER and NEC to initiate a program on documentation of traditional culture of various tribes of Arunachal Pradesh. I would also suggest to provide additional funds for development of modified roman scripts of indigenous tribes of all the 8 North Eastern States with concerned Ministries. This can then form part of school curriculum so that our children are taught about the rich culture of the state right from primary schools.

My state is thankful to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for sanctioning a state of the art Tribal Research Institute for Arunachal Pradesh.

### **AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED SECTOR**

Agriculture and allied sector has a huge potential in Arunachal Pradesh as the State is blessed with vast land territory. We are the largest producer of Kiwi in India, and we also produce cash crops like cardamom, ginger, cinnamon, apple, blueberries in large quantity.

My State Government has made an ambitious plan to cover 7 lakh hectares land with micro irrigation under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sichai Yojana (PMKSY). I request Government of India to approve the proposal and provide necessary funds for implementation of the program.

NEC has taken an important initiative known as North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project (NERCORMP) which is a jointly funded project of NEC, Ministry of DoNER and International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD). This

project focuses on rural livelihood sector by promoting agriculture, horticulture and self employment in the region. I would urge NEC to take up major projects under NERCORMP to bring visible changes in the region. I would also urge DoNER ministry to expand the outreach of NERCORMP in all border blocks bordering China in Arunachal Pradesh.

## **LAW AND ORDER**

Maintaining law and order is one of the most important prerequisites for bringing development in the region.

But I am pained to see the growth of insurgency in the state over the recent years. While the State is largely peaceful, there are certain pockets that have faced insurgency from early 90s. Arunachal Pradesh Government is seriously working on economic development of the insurgency prone districts viz, Tirap, Changlang and Longding (TCL). We have a separate Department that is DoTCL wherein every year Rs. 50 Crores is provided for socio-economic development of TCL region.

I am thankful to MHA, Government of India to sanction a special security infrastructure package of Rs. 156 Crores for the TCL region. This will go a long way in strengthening the local police in their fight against the insurgents in the region. The districts of Tirap, Changlang and Longding must be given priority in areas of education, social development and inclusive growth.

I am also thankful to Hon'ble Home Minister Sh. Rajnath Singh ji and MoS (Home) Sh. Kiren Rijju ji for raising 2(two) Indian Reserve Battalion (IRBns) in the State, providing additional funds for CC TV surveillance in Capital city of Arunachal Pradesh, grant-in-aid for Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and System(CCTNS), Modernization of State Police Forces and enhancement of cost of project for security infrastructure and Emergency Response Support System(ERSS).

## **FINANCIAL INCLUSION**

Financial Inclusion is a very important issue especially for my State. Under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, approximately 2.10 lakhs Jan Dhan accounts have been opened in the state.

Under Pradhan Mantri Jeewan Jyoti Yojana, Arunachal Pradesh has covered around 50000 families. SBI has sanctioned around 50000 loans under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana. The Credit Deposit Ratio of Arunachal Pradesh is only 29% as against 38% of NER and 78% pan India. This shows that there is very poor credit off take in Arunachal Pradesh thereby leading to scanty financing of businesses.

It is suggested that NEC develops linkages with major financial institutions of the country to promote credit off take in Arunachal Pradesh. It can provide a credit risk guarantee fund for promoting entrepreneurs in the state.

Efforts are being made to provide digital literacy to the youths so that they become part of Digital India. We have kept a target to e-literate 30,000 youths. We are also focusing on use of GeM portal to carry out digital transactions in procurement of goods.

I request Union Ministry of Finance to open the RBI bank branch in Arunachal Pradesh at the earliest as it is very important to bring fiscal discipline in both commercial as well as government banks.

#### **NEC UNIT IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

I would urge NEC to strengthen its arms by setting up offices in my State and expand our role as an important think tank of the North Eastern Region. NEC must keep my State to bridge in the critical infrastructural gaps and to synergize the efforts of Central and State Government in ushering balanced development of the region. As I conclude, once again I thank the Hon'ble Chairman for having given me this opportunity to put forth my views. I look forward to a meaningful discussion during the meeting and I hope that our interaction and decision would help in enhancing the development aspect of the North Eastern Region.

Here, I would like to recall the words of Former President Pranab Mukherjee, addressing the joint sitting of the Parliament on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2017 that ***“My government sees the north-eastern states as Ashtalakshmi that can take India to new heights. The North-East is the gateway to South-East Asia. We are opening up road and rail routes to our neighbouring countries to boost the economic development of the region”***

And most importantly, I would also take this opportunity to invite all of the esteemed members present here to visit the beautiful frontier state of Arunachal Pradesh.

In the end, I would like to thank the organizers of this event for arranging the plenary in a befitting manner. Let us all work together to develop North-Eastern Region as an **ECONOMIC POWERHOUSE** that can take India to new heights.

**Thank you**

**Jai Hind**



**67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of North Eastern Council**

***Speech by***

**Prof. Jagdish Mukhi**

**Hon'ble Governor of Assam**

**Shillong, 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2018**

**Speech of Prof. Jagdish Mukhi, Hon'ble Governor of Assam for the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of North Eastern Council to be held on 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 at Shillong**

Respected dignitaries, warm welcome to all of you to the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of the North Eastern Council (NEC). Over the years the Council has striven despite many constraints in the pursuit of planning and development of the states of the Region. This meeting assumes significance, as it is an opportunity for all of us to review the state of development of the Region and decide our strategies for the years to come. I am positive that the deliberations during this plenary meeting and the decisions reached by the Council would help in achieving even more meaningful contribution towards faster socio-economic development of the North Eastern Region (NER).

We all know that North Eastern Region is unique in its mix of rich natural resources. However, the Region is linked with the rest of the Country by a narrow strip of land. Despite all these strengths and weaknesses, it should be admitted that North East has enormous potentials to develop and prosper as one of the developed regions in the Country. Notwithstanding its chicken's neck syndrome. NEC should look for ways and means to develop connectivity of the region with rest of the country and other ASEAN and BBN countries through airways and waterways.

It is here, I call upon the Ministry of DoNER to pay adequate attention and draw up an action plan for positioning North East as the springboard for India's Act East Policy.

Developing trade, transport and economic links with Bangladesh is very important for most of the States of the Region and needs greater focus. The Ministry of DoNER should fully reflect the aspirations of the Government and people of the region in all the forums.

Assam is geo-strategically located in the North East and Guwahati is the Gateway to North Eastern Region. All the North Eastern states have received benefits, directly or indirectly from the existing infrastructure of Assam and especially in Guwahati. It is needless to mention that any development projects taken up in Assam, would as a natural corollary leads to the development of other states. Bearing this same spirit may I request the Ministry of DoNER of conceiving a project of making Guwahati the Kunming of India which can stimulate the growth of other North Eastern States as vibrant region to take Nation's Act East to its logical conclusion. Also, the Ministry of DoNER should impress upon the Ministries of Home and External Affairs to initiate talks with their counterparts of ASEAN countries to set up their consulates in Guwahati. So that our people do not have to go to New Delhi and the same work can be done from Guwahati itself.

Due to lack of adequate job opportunity in the region a huge number of educated youth migrate to other parts of the country in search of jobs. Through industrialization and appropriate investment it can be minimized. Therefore, NEC should come up with

appropriate scheme to promote investment in relevant sectors to create jobs for the youths in the region.

In Assam Tea Industry is highly developed and has a global presence. However, it has not spread in similar manner to the other adjoining states of the North East where the prospects are equally good. I feel that the NEC should examine the reason and find ways to extend the already developed tea industry to the other states of the region.

Economy of Assam is mainly agro-based. To give emphasis to agricultural development crops with multi-cropping system is introduced in the state. Along with this, extension of research activities and skill upgradation of farmers may be taken up to double the income of farmers, NEC may provide necessary support in this area to achieve our Prime Minister's mission of doubling farmers' income by 2022.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has set the motto of our Government as ***Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas***. To implement this motto we need to identify existing aspirations and channelize them to create a ripple effect for transforming Aspirational Districts. Similarly NEC may also take such initiative for other backward areas of North Eastern states for all round development of the region.

While concluding, I thank the Hon'ble Chairman and the distinguished Members of the Council and the dignitaries present here, for having given me the opportunity to put forth my views. I look forward for the proceedings of this meeting for meaningful action thereafter.

**Thank you..Jai Hind..**





**GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR**

**ADDRESS**

**OF**

***Dr NAJMA HEPTULLA,  
HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF MANIPUR***

**AT**

**THE 67<sup>th</sup> PLENARY OF NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL**

**9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> July 2018  
Shillong**

***Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs & Chairman of the North Eastern Council, Shri Rajnathji, Hon'ble Minister of DoNER, Dr Jitendra Singhji, my Distinguished Colleagues & Members of the Council, Ladies and Gentlemen***

It is indeed my privilege to participate in today's 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of the North Eastern Council under two dynamic leaders, Shri Rajnathji, Hon'ble Union Minister of Home Affairs and Chairman of North Eastern Council and Dr Jitendraji, Hon'ble Union Minister of DoNER. It amply demonstrates the Central Government's concern and strategy for faster development of the eight North Eastern States under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modiji.

### **ANNUAL BUDGET OF NEC FOR THE YEAR 2018-19**

I understand that all ongoing projects will be closed by March 2020 and new projects will be funded 100% by NEC from the year 2018-19 as Central Sector projects. I also understand that the approval of the Council is sought for Budget allocation of Rs. 1156 crores for the Year 2018-19 and thrust has been given for clearing committed liabilities of ongoing projects under different sectors of NEC. State Government are no more required to submit annual priority list of new projects for consideration of NEC. Sir, I had raised the issue on normative allocation of NE Budget to member NE States in the 66<sup>th</sup> Plenary as per socio-economic development needs and not as per criteria of population or area for a balanced development. I understand that normative allocation of my State is 12%. I seek attention of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, NEC to provide funds not less than the normative allocation of my State for taking up new projects identified for the State and take up regional projects after detailed consultation with all member States for balance development and avoid concentration of resources on one or few States only. If no fund is provided for new projects than normative allocation has no meaning.

My Chief Minister will elaborate more on the Annual Budget, however I am of the opinion that consultation process by NEC with States should continue for assessing the needs/demand of the people and for effective implementation of projects.

### **RE-POSITIONING OF NEC INTO A COUNCIL FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION, DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND KNOWLEDGE HUB FOR THE NER**

The North Eastern Council was established initially as an Advisory Body for securing a balanced development of the region under the Ministry of Home Affairs in 1972, which was transferred to Ministry of DoNER after establishment of a full fledged Ministry for Development of the North Eastern Region in 2001. The North Eastern Council as well as the Ministry for Development of North Eastern Region has contributed to the development of North Eastern Region. I understand that there has been a confusion and overlapping of role between M/o DoNER and North Eastern Council. With the re-positioning of NEC into a Council for conflict resolution, development planning and knowledge hub for the NER, there

will be segregation of role of NEC and DoNER. I believe NEC will continue to take up inter-State projects which benefit more than two States. However, NEC's role as development planning and knowledge hub for NER should be clearly segregated from M/o DoNER and NITI Ayog, to avoid duplication and wastage of resources. Whatever planning process and strategic policy vision is developed for the NE Region by the NEC and its recommendation should be followed up with implementation strategy and budget allocation.

With regard to the role of NEC in conflict resolution, I hope that the Council will deliver in resolving inter-State conflicts and common issues and problems existing within NER States through fruitful discussion and co-ordination.

### **RECOMMENDATION OF THE EFC FOR CONTINUATION OF NEC SCHEMES TILL 2020**

I am informed that Expenditure Finance Committee has identified areas/sectors for NEC funding and that all ongoing projects are to be completed by 2020. Sports and water resources sector are not featuring in the identified areas. These two areas also are not covered under North Eastern Infrastructure Development Scheme of Ministry of DoNER. I am of the opinion that these two sectors being the thrust areas of our government for providing safe drinking water supply(pipe) to every household and the gap of funding that exists and anti-erosion scheme as preventive measure to mitigate erosion during rainy season at critical sections along riverside/stream side, habitations in low lying areas should continue to be funded under NEC. There is no new scheme being taken up by the Central Ministry to address this problem of NE States. Regarding, Sports Sector sir, we all agree that North East States are the power house of Sports. Our youths' talents, energy, potential require nurturing and for producing world class sports person, there is need for infrastructure development of sports and playfields, where potential youth and sportspersons can practice year-round. At present, most of the playfields are submerged during rainy season and playfields are not fit for practice for five-six months in a year. The requirement under Sports for the NE States and rest of the States in the country would be very different. Moreover, the budget for infrastructure development (capital) under RE 2017-18 for Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports was only Rs. 34.75 crores and there is provision of Rs. 58.04 crores only for 2018-19 for all the States, which will not be sufficient. I, therefore, appeal to the Chairman through this August House to take up the matter for continuation/inclusion of Sports and Water Resources sector for Water Supply and Anti-erosion scheme under NEC funding.

Regarding new projects sanctioned by NEC during 2017-18 and 2018-19, I endorse the view of my Chief Minister and other Members that State Government should be allowed to continue execution of all new projects sanctioned by NEC, which have been kept in abeyance by Ministry of DoNER and NEC. I request Hon'ble Chairman and Minister DoNER to take up the matter with Finance Ministry for enhancing the budget of NEC and re-allocate

Rs4500 crores allocated to NEC for 2017-18 to 2019-2020 for adjusting liabilities of new projects already sanctioned by NEC during 2017-18 and 2018-19.

### **NEC AS A MAJOR PARTNER IN THE GOVERNMENT'S ACT EAST POLICY INITIATIVES**

NE States are the corridors for India's Act East Policy. My State Manipur is one of the important gateways to South East Asia because of its locational advantage. It shares international boundary with Myanmar. Asian Highway-1 and Asian Highway-2 will pass through Manipur. Moreh town is the trade centre of Manipur(India) with Myanmar and adjoining Tamu is trade centre on the Myanmar side. In the near future, Imphal shall be connected with rest of the country by Jiribam-Tupul- Imphal railway line, a National Project. Survey for the plan of extension of railway line from Imphal to Moreh is in process. Further, North Eastern States including Manipur offer wide range of potential not only in trade & Commerce but also in tourism such as eco-tourism, adventure tourism, cultural and ethnic heritage tourism, health tourism, etc. This will not only generate income but also generate direct and indirect employment for the people of our States. NE states including Manipur will play a major role in actualising Act East Policy.

### **OTHER ISSUES**

#### **AFFORESTATION:**

Sir, in the 66<sup>th</sup> Plenary of NEC, I had raised the issue of mass felling of the trees and alarming depletion of forest cover in the North East and had suggested that NEC could lead in the restoration of the greenery through community based sustainable resource based programme and frame a separate afforestation policy/ programme for the NE States to arrest further deterioration on a 'mission mode'. With the alarming climate change, global warming and warning on severe water scarcity by 2030 as per the NITI Ayog's report, there is need to give serious attention towards increasing forest cover and water conservation by harvesting maximum water during rainy season. As per the report of Forest Survey of India 2017, there has been a net increase of 263 sq km in the State of Manipur and 567 sq km in Assam due to conservation and plantation activities as well as regrowth in shifting cultivation areas. However, much more needs to be done, since forest cover is depleting in rest of the remaining NE States, as per the report. Let us commit to plant a tree every year and nurture it to make NE states the greenery region of India.

#### **"AIR DISPENSARY" TO PROVIDE HEALTH SERVICES TO REMOTE AND HILL AREAS**

Sir, I would like to draw attention towards Minister DoNER, DrJitendra Singhji's initiative of "Air Dispensary" service for providing health services in the rural and hilly areas of the NE states by helicopters. I understand that an amount of Rs 25 crores has been earmarked by the Ministry of DoNER in 2017-18 as part of the initial funding for this initiative. This will help pregnant mothers and critical care patients in particular to reach the nearest Health Centres for their treatment, who otherwise could not have availed of the

facility due to poor connectivity. Sir, through this August house, I request for early launching of this project from Imphal.

### **SKILL DEVELOPMENT**

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana is a flagship scheme of our Government. Youths of NE states and Manipur with their improved language skill and short-term training by different skill development agencies under various programmes of the Central Government are getting employment opportunities outside the State particularly in Delhi, Mumbai, Gurgaon and Bangalore. Our youths working outside the State need secure environment at their work place and place of stay and handholding of these youths is required to ensure retention by the Company employing them. I had raised this issue in the previous Plenary Session also. Ministry of DoNER and NEC may co-ordinate and monitor so that maximum youths of NE states and my State in particular get employment within and outside the State.

Sir, I would like to thank the Chairman and North Eastern Council for giving this valuable opportunity to participate in today's discussion and share my views and suggestions.

JAI HIND



**SPEECH OF**

**Shri Ganga Prasad**

**Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya**

**at the**

**67<sup>th</sup> Plenary**

**of**

**North Eastern Council**

**on**

**9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2018**

**at**

**Shillong**

***Hon'ble Union Home Minister, Shri Rajnath Singh ji Hon'ble Union Minister of State for DoNER, Dr. Jitendra Singh, Hon'ble Governors, Hon'ble Chief Ministers, Members of the North Eastern Council, Officers of the Government of India and of the North Eastern States.***

1. It is a great honour for me to address this august gathering and, on behalf of the citizens of Meghalaya, I would like to convey their greetings to all the distinguished guests attending the Plenary, especially to the Hon'ble Union Home Minister who has recently assumed charge of the office of Chairman, NEC. I do hope that the deliberations will be fruitful for the over-all development of the North Eastern Region.
2. Sustainable growth with equitable development is the cornerstone of the State Government's endeavor in its quest to provide livelihood opportunities to all its citizens as well as to ensure availability of the basic requirements in terms of quality health care, education, nutrition, etc. In this connection, the State Government is ensuring that the numerous schemes and programmes of the Government of India are being implemented fully. I would like to express my gratitude to the Central Government for ensuring that the grants which are being provided to the North Eastern States on account of most of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Central Sector Schemes are on a 90:10 basis.
3. I would like to state that the State Government is encouraging convergence of schemes and programmes so as to ensure maximization of benefits out of these schemes and programmes. A number of mission mode interventions like the aquaculture mission, horticulture mission, apiculture mission, livestock mission, silk mission and water mission are under implementation. Very recently Lakadong Mission was launched by the State Government to promote a unique turmeric variety. These missions are closely interconnected with each other and their primary objective of providing sustainable livelihoods to the people of the State while also ensuring preservation and judicious use of our natural resources.
4. There are a number of agricultural products in which the State has a distinct advantage and these include the Lakadong turmeric, black pepper, ginger, honey, horticultural and floriculture products as well as fruits like pineapples, oranges, jackfruit, etc. The setting up of export-related infrastructure such as centre for packaging, cold storage facilities, food processing units, development of rural markets, etc in different locations of the State of Meghalaya to boost export of these products to Bangladesh and neighbouring countries is an important element of the Act East Policy. Further, the setting up of a phyto-certification agency in the State will also help boost the export of our organic products. The NEC as well as the Government of India is requested to lend its support and assistance on this matter.
5. One of the important programmes which is being implemented in the State is the Meghalaya Livelihoods & Access to Markets Project (Megha-LAMP) which is an Externally Aided Project supported by IFAD. This projects aims at ensuring accessibility

to markets by providing connectivity through roads, ropeways and waterways for the interior and inaccessible areas of the State. Under the project, 250 kms of roads, 20 kms of bridges and 10 ropeways will be constructed.

6. The North Eastern States are doing well in terms of literacy rate vis-à-vis the other regions of the country especially mainland India. However, the high drop-out rate in the secondary education in Meghalaya is a major concern even though the rate has reduced from 36 percent in 2012-13 to about 25 percent in 2014-15. The State Government continues to give due importance to this issue and has undertaken several initiatives to address the problem. In this connection, the State Government is implementing the '*Supporting Human Capital Project*' which is being supported by the Asian Development Bank. This programme seeks to upgrade the existing secondary schools and to also impart vocational training and skills to the youth to make them more employable.
7. One of the recommendations of the North Eastern Region Vision 2020 is to achieve a high level of human development. International Youth Exchange Programmes are important means for promoting exchange of ideas and values amongst the youths of different countries. Adequate budgetary provisions should be made for encouraging the youths of NER to participate in such cultural exchange programmes which may be organized in different ASEAN countries and our neighbouring countries in future.
8. Meghalaya shares an international boundary of 443 Kms with Bangladesh in the South. Therefore, improvement and upgradation of the existing border roads is essential for trade. The State of Meghalaya had submitted to NEC the list of 10 roads leading to international border during 2016-17 for taking up under the scheme "*North East Roads Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS)*". The selected roads are of economic importance and there is an urgent need to improve and upgrade these roads so that they can cater to the heavy traffic density. NEC is, therefore, requested to consider the development of these roads positively.
9. **Disaster Management:** North East Region is susceptible towards various types of natural disaster such as floods, landslides and earthquakes. The entire region falls under Seismic Zone V i.e, very high damage risk. Hence, the importance of effective and timely risk mitigation measures cannot be over-emphasized. The NEC should create a funding window for facilitating mitigation measures such as:
  - Time-bound mandatory retrofitting for all lifeline buildings.
  - Setting up of '*Retrofitting Clinic*' at the School of Technology, NEHU by the Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC), Government Agencies, approved private companies and other stakeholders.
  - A Regional Institute for Disaster Management needs to be set up in the region linking with various agencies in this domain and for training all stakeholders



including private citizens, relief & rescue workers, communication personnel and police. The State of Meghalaya would be happy to take a lead in this.

10. Meghalaya has a very high percentage of forest cover and almost all the developmental activities in the State require clearances under the Forest Conservation Act and thereby causing undue delay in the implementation of projects whose sites pass through forest covered areas. The State Government, on a number of occasions, has taken up with the Ministry of Forest, Environment & Climate Change to consider granting States with very high forest cover, the same power as delegated to the Left Wing Extremism affected States to ensure speedy implementation of projects & programmes. Kind intervention of the Ministry of Home Affairs and the NEC on the matter is sought.
11. The NEC, as a Regional Planning Body, has a role to play in preserving the biodiversity / bio-resources of the North Eastern region as the region is one of the biodiversity hotspots in the world. Meghalaya has numerous varieties of orchid and medicinal plants, home to some of the rare varieties of banana, citrus plants, and a storehouse of diverse germplasm reserves which can be a rich resource for crop and plant improvement programmes. Meghalaya is also the only State in the whole of India where the rare pitcher plant grows in the wild. The Bio-resources Development Centre at Shillong needs to be strengthened and expanded to provide application based research for production of quality planting materials. This will go a long way in improving the productivity of various crops. Necessary financial and technical assistance from the NEC is required in this front.
12. Over the recent years, the problem of traffic congestion in Shillong city has become an area of concern. One of the measures which can decongest the road in the city is to construct a flyover from Bara Bazaar to the intersection at Civil Hospital, Shillong. This fly-over will reduce the density of traffic in the Police Bazaar area as well as its adjoining areas. However, land for the purpose belongs to the Ministry of Defence, Government of India. The State Government has put forward a request to the Ministry of Defence to hand over the required stretch of land to the State for this purpose. The NEC is requested to take up the matter with the Ministry of Defence and the other concerned Ministries of the Government of India to expedite the matter.
13. **Baljek Airport** : Located in Jengjal, West Garo Hills District, this Airport with 3300 ft runway was completed in 2008 and inaugurated by the then President of India, Smti Pratibha Patil on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2008. However, the airport has remained non-functional even after completion due to the fact that the Airport was conceived as a STOL (Short Taking Off and Landing) Airport with a runway of around 1120 metres which is capable of handling only a 20-seater aircraft of Dornier class that are no longer in operation. Hence, NEC is requested to include the upgradation of Baljek Airport including its maintenance as one of the projects under the scheme of the NEC for improvement / upgradation of Airports in the North Eastern region.

NEC is requested to continue with its proactive steps for encouraging better air connectivity and the operationalisation of airports in different parts of NER under the Regional Air Connectivity scheme of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India.

14. The States of the North East are often deprived of the schemes and programmes of the Government of India due to lack of communication and awareness of such schemes and programmes. Therefore, NEC should henceforth act as an extension of various Ministries of the Government of India and bring out regular bulletins and circulars informing different State Governments about various opportunities and avenues which they can avail of from the central Government. The NEC may also consider extending necessary technical assistance to the States in preparation of DPRs, effective coordination with various Central Ministries, gap funding in case of convergence of projects besides independent evaluation and monitoring.
15. The State Government has identified numerous way-side markets along the State and National Highways and Tourism Circuits across the State. The products available in the stalls at these markets are mostly home made products such as processed agro-based food products, honey, local fruits, vegetables, handicrafts, handloom, broom sticks, etc. However, these stalls are of traditional forms with temporary sheds which are open structures and without proper shelves for displaying the products. The NEC is requested to intervene by formulating a scheme for construction of modern way-side markets to be equipped with better facilities like proper drinking water supply, toilets, parking spaces, refreshment areas, etc which will incentivize and promote the entrepreneurs to sell their products in a more organized and attractive way.

I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to present my views at the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of the NEC, on behalf of the State of Meghalaya.

**Jai Hind**

**\*\*\***



**ADDRESS**

**OF**

**SHRI KUMMANAM RAJASEKHARAN**

**HON'BLE GOVRNOR OF MIZORM**

**AT THE**

**67<sup>TH</sup> PLENARY OF THE NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL**

**ON**

**9-10 JULY 2018,**

**AT**

**SHILLONG, MEGHALAYA**

***Hon'ble Union Home Minister and Chairman of the North Eastern Council Shri Rajnath Singhji, Vice Chairman of the North Eastern Council and Union Minister of State for DoNER Dr. Jitendra Singh, Hon'ble Governors of the North Eastern States, Hon'ble Chief Ministers of the North Eastern States, Members of the North Eastern Council, Senior Officials of the Ministry of DoNER, NEC and State Governments, Ladies and Gentlemen***

It is my pleasure and privilege to participate in the Plenary Meeting of the North Eastern Council and I extend my warm greetings to all the participants.

Since its inception in 1972, the North Eastern Council has made commendable effort to build up the economic infrastructure of the North Eastern region. I would like to place my sincere appreciation of the achievements rendered by the North Eastern Council in spite of many hurdles and constraints.

I understand that the Government of India is actively considering the need to restructure the North Eastern Council with a view to making it more effective. Recent decision of the Union Cabinet for appointing Union Home Minister as Chairman of the Council and repositioning of North Eastern Council into a Council for conflict resolution, development planning and knowledge hub for the North East Region is a welcome step. I strongly believe that under the dynamic leadership of Shri Rajnath Singhji, the North Eastern Council will achieve greater heights for the rapid development of the North East Region.

We all understand very well that there cannot be any meaningful social and economic progress in the North Eastern Region in the absence of peace and security. If the North Eastern Council is to be repositioned into a Council for conflict resolution, the Council may be appropriately equipped or strengthened to advise and provide supplementary assistance to States, and also provide platform to share and discuss issues in this regard at appropriate levels with concerned Ministries in the Government of India. The other area in which the North Eastern Council may play meaningful role is to oversee the protection and improvement of ecology and environment of the region.

The proposal to include North Eastern Council as a major partner in the Government's Act East Policy initiatives is most welcome. The realization of Act East Policy initiatives in the form of economic dividends to the NE Region is eagerly awaited. I believe that each North Eastern State, including Mizoram, have to be provisioned to play a more active role under the umbrella of the Act East policy. But a policy like this cannot be implemented in a vacuum. Certain prerequisites like developed infrastructure, a detailed product and market-specific realistic study of the region's export potential, development of a competitive production base in the hinterland and, finally and importantly, making the local communities involved and informed stakeholders, have to be met. Otherwise, in spite of Act East Policy, North East would remain just a corridor for movement of goods and services across borders. The existing rudimentary infrastructure for border trade would need a major overhaul and further improvement for the State to break out of its landlocked

borders and engage in cultural, economic and tourism related interactions with our international neighbors.

Importance of infrastructure development in economic growth cannot be overemphasized. Infrastructure is the lifeline of an economy and the fate of the economy is intricately linked to the development or otherwise of its infrastructure. However, infrastructure development involves long gestation periods, and encounters many legal and procedural issues besides planning and execution issues. The problems related to infrastructure development range from those relating to land acquisition for the infrastructure project to environmental clearances. The added uncertainty due to these factors affects the risk appetite of investors as well as lenders to extend funds for the development of infrastructure. The issues impinging on infrastructure development comprise both financial and non-financial factors and these needs to be seen in totality, particularly in the North Eastern Region. While financing remains a major factor, the non-financial issues also should receive appropriate attention. The infrastructure financing in the North Eastern Region has been almost completely met by the public sector. Given the huge and growing investment requirements coupled with the fiscal imperatives, public sector's capacity in financing infrastructure is understandably constrained necessitating the private sector to play a greater role. There are, however, multiple challenges in channelizing private sector investment into infrastructure in the North East Region. North Eastern Council would need to continue to play active role in infrastructure development.

Poor connectivity within the North Eastern Region and with other region remains critical issue for economic development in the region. As for my State, Mizoram, road transport is the biggest transport infrastructure. The State is connected through air with one airport at Lengpui. The State does not have waterways, and railway connectivity is under construction. Road transport has played a very important role in the development of the State. However, due to hilly terrain and heavy rains through the year, road condition in the state is much to be desired. Moreover, the total length of roads in the state is 7632 kms with road density of 36.19 km/100 sq km only which is way below the national average of 166 km/ 100 sq km. The total fund requirement for maintenance of existing roads under State Government alone is a burden for a small State like Mizoram. The total fund requirement for maintenance of State roads per kilometer is about Rs. 6.45 lakh per annum which works out to be about Rs. 300 crores per annum. A massive investment would be required to catch up with national average of 166 km/ 100 sq. km.

Digital connectivity is one of the biggest challenges facing the North East Region and the condition in Mizoram is far from satisfactory. High speed internet connectivity enables efficient fulfillment of business and social needs of the society through the exploitation and utilization of the basic infrastructure. We all know that under Digital India programme, the Central Government has taken massive initiatives for 'broadband to all' and 'Optical Fiber Network to every village'. The National Optical Fiber Network (NOFN), which is now known as "Bharat Net", has started way back in 2012 but till today the progress in my State is not

traceable. The Central Government may have to work closer with State machinery as partner in this initiative, and NEC or Ministry of DoNER should coordinate with line Ministries in the Government of India vigorously.

North Eastern Council is created to be a regional planning body for the North East Region to spearhead infrastructure development in the region. However, past funding patterns of the Centre for NEC has been very discouraging. Annual allocation of NEC and Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) has been stagnant at around 700 crores each for the last couple of years. Allocation for North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme and NEC New Scheme are equally disheartening. I would like to submit that Rs. 4500 crores earmarked for the new NEC schemes for the whole North Eastern States during 2017-18 to 2019-20 is going to be too less to have meaningful impact for the Region's Development. The earmarked fund includes Rs. 2357 crores for committed liabilities of ongoing projects, Rs. 1000 crores for North East Roads Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS), and Rs. 640 crores for NLCPR (Central) liabilities. There is no fund left for new project during the new Scheme period 2018-2020. It is highly doubtful that the North Eastern Region could become an 'engine of growth' with such a meager investment from the Centre. I hope that under the active and able leadership of Hon'ble Union Home Minister, we will be able to enhance budget of the North Eastern Council significantly.

At the State level, my state, Mizoram needs large investments in infrastructure for accelerating inclusive growth aimed at poverty alleviation and improvement in quality of life. Given the fiscal constraints at the State level that leave little room for expanding public investment at the scale required, and difficulty in attracting private investment, the State has been depending heavily on funding from the Central Government for infrastructure development. Our internal resource base is insufficient and inelastic. There is not much scope to increase it further. We have to depend, perforce, on central subvention. We expect strong and continued support from NEC in this endeavor.

I wish that the deliberations over these two day will be fruitful so as to strengthen the North Eastern Council to not only provide the much needed support for the development of the North Eastern Region but also to better equipped to cater to the demands and aspirations of the region.

Thank You

Jai Hind



**SPEECH  
OF  
HON'BLE SHRI P.B. ACHARYA  
GOVERNOR OF NAGALAND**

**67<sup>TH</sup> PLENARY OF  
NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL  
AT  
STATE CONVENTION CENTRE, SHILLONG  
ON  
9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2018**

## **Speech of Hon'ble Governor during the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of the North Eastern Council**

Hon'ble Chairman, North East Council, Rajnath Singh ji,  
Hon'ble Vice Chairman, Dr. Jitendra Singh ji,  
Hon'ble Governors and  
Hon'ble Chief Ministers of North Eastern States,  
Respected Members of North East Council,  
Secretary, Ministry of Development of North East Region,  
Secretary and other Officers of NEC Secretariat,  
Senior Officers of Government of India and State Government and Distinguished participants.  
Namaskar,

It gives me great pleasure to participate in the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of North East Council and look forward to a meaningful and fruitful deliberation over the next two days.

### **NEC Centric Issues**

Since 1971, the North East Council as a forum has been a significant and effective platform for discussing and deliberating upon the development issues of the North East Region. The recent re-positioning of NEC into a Council for conflict resolution, development planning and knowledge hub is welcomed. However, the region is still lacking behind in terms of development in comparison to other states/ region of the Country. The region is richly endowed with natural resources and human resources. Yet these potentials are yet to be fully optimized. Hence, care should be taken not to reduce NEC to mere recommending body and a knowledge hub without necessary resources. It is in this context that Recommendations of EFC (Expenditure Finance Committee) for continuation of NEC Schemes till 2020 only needs re-examination. The NE States, particularly Nagaland, with meagre resources depend on the NEC and DoNER for assistance for implementation of important projects and programs which are outside the funding pattern of the Ministries of Government of India.

### **Agriculture**

Agriculture is the mainstay of the State with 70% of the workforce engaged in agri and allied activities. The biggest constraint for agri and allied sector in Nagaland is the market linkage and storage. Provision of cold storage facilities in the State was highlighted by me in the previous meeting. The Prime Minister has emphasized on developing the North Eastern Region as the hub of organic farming. And the natural advantage of the region in the area of organic farming can be turned into real wealth by providing necessary support and infrastructure for storage, marketing and processing. Certified organic products fetch higher income for the producers. There is therefore the need for NEC to come forward to help the states in getting their food products certified as organic and brand building in value chain mode linking producers and consumers. With the immense potential for horticulture crops,



besides processing and packaging, for systematic development of horticulture in the region, it is felt that Central Institute of Horticulture, Dimapur should be strengthened and upgraded to full fledged regional institute for Horticulture.

**Here I would like to mention that during my visit to Mon and other remote areas of Nagaland, I found that excellent quality organic produce like Cardamom, Ginger and fruits like Pineapple are being sold at throw away prices compared to prevalent market price. For example, Cardamom was sold at Rs. 270/- per Kilo Gram in Mon while it fetches approximately Rs. 1500/- in Assam.**

### **Power Sector**

Power is critical for industrialisation and technological advancements. Therefore the power needs of the North East States should be seriously examined and fulfilled. Nagaland is facing serious power deficit, the State generates only 26 MW against the peak requirement of 115 MW. In order to overcome this acute shortage, the State has taken up various initiatives such as 186 MW Dikhu hydro project, 30 MW Tizu and 36 MW Zungki projects. Further, on a pilot basis, the State has introduced Smart Metering and Pre-paid meters in certain localities for improving efficiency and reducing losses. In this, to enable coverage of the entire State, the support of NEC is anticipated.

### **Skill Development and Capacity Building**

With a young demographic profile, the State is advantageously placed in terms of availability of human resource in the working age group. However, with the lack of organized private sector in the State to absorb the growing number of youths and a saturated Government sector, this primary resource becomes a challenge. Therefore, to be gainfully employed, these youths need to be imparted with the right skills in conjunction with the ground realities of the region.

With their command over the English language, their flair and pleasing personalities, besides others, skill development in the following areas may be considered viz, skill in tourism and hospitality, aviation, nursing, para-medics, wellness, industry, music and entertainment, IT and the BPOs, sports, therapists and specialized skills in automobile sector and in the construction sector. Entrepreneurship skills too need to be developed and for which special handholding is required. In recent years, with the increase in significance of skill development and the training programmes organized in partnership with Central Government's agencies, many youths from the region are now employed in various sectors across the country.

During interaction with Vice Chancellors of different Universities in Nagaland, I have urged the Universities to interact with Trade, Industries, Commerce keeping in mind the available natural resources and have skill courses that ensure employment for students. However, the continuing attrition is a concern. These youths who leave their jobs and return back to the

State after two-three years of employment add to the unemployment burden of the State. This leaves the State with a paradox of having many young people who have had the experience of being employed but who are no longer employable. Focus is therefore required not only on numbers but also on the quality of employment and the scope for career progression of the young people who are employed outside the State/ Region.

It is in this context that the decision taken by the 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Committee in its meeting held on 6/10/2015 in New Delhi for establishment of Regional Institutes assumes significance. The consensus arrived at in the meeting was for the setting up of 14 Regional Institutes in North Eastern Region. This decision needs to be acted upon giving priority to those states which do not have institutes that are Regional in character while at the same time establishing these Regional Institutes spread across the region.

### **Connectivity**

For a landlocked state like Nagaland with poor rail and air connectivity, roads remain the lifeline of the State. In Nagaland, the major challenge of road connectivity is not only construction but its maintenance given its topography, gradient, instable soil condition and heavy rainfall. Construction and maintenance of roads in the State therefore requires huge investment of resources. The potential of the State can be harnessed to make it a hub of economic activity through tourism and agri and allied activities promote economic development and to generate employment opportunities. However, unless connectivity is improved, these potentials will continue to be latent. The issue of better connectivity therefore has to be addressed in all seriousness.

We have been speaking on connectivity by road and air issues in NEC for the last four years but the condition of the roads and other forms of connectivity remain dismal and I would urge this forum to form a committee of local experts and users to help in identifying constraints in transforming the situation.

Here I would like to mention that Kohima is the only State Capital in the country without an airport. I would urge that the proposed Greenfield Airport for Kohima (Chiethu) be expeditiously taken up. Although the State is strategically located, only when there is good connectivity, will the State and country be able to leverage on the Act East policy.

**JAI HIND**



**ADDRESS**

**OF**

**SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL**

**HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF SIKKIM**

**IN THE**

**67<sup>TH</sup> PLENARY MEETING**

**OF**

**THE NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL**

**(9<sup>TH</sup> & 10<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2018)**

**SHILLONG**

At the outset, on behalf of the people of Sikkim, I extend my heartiest welcome to Hon'ble Shri Rajnath Singh Ji, the new Chairman of North Eastern Council. I also extend my greetings to my esteemed colleagues, the Hon'ble Chief Ministers of the North Eastern States, Hon'ble Minister for DoNER, Dr. Jitendra Singh Ji and dignitaries present in the meeting.

I am sure that Hon'ble Home Minister's vast understanding of the North East and its border areas and his awareness of the strengths and the weaknesses of the entire North East Region will lend a positive impact on our developmental pursuits. We look forward to his continued support and guidance as we move to take the North East Region towards the forefront of development.

The North East as a geographic entity is a unique region in the country with a rich mix of varied resources, bio-diversity, culture, ethnicity and linguistic aspects. The region is also strategically located with very long international border demanding special attention of the Government of India. We firmly believe that developed North East will lead to a developed India.

Before I proceed, I take this opportunity to inform this august forum that Sikkim, though a border State and strategically located in the Himalayas, has been an oasis of peace and tranquility over the decades.

The border trade with the Tibetan Autonomous Region (China) has been going on smoothly without any hiccups. We look forward to Government of India for assistance to further strengthen the border trade mart, the quarantine facilities, check posts and other amenities that are required for the border trade. The present facilities are rudimentary and I hope the concerned agencies of Government of India would come forward to strengthen the infrastructure for this border trade.

The ***Kailash Mansarovar*** pilgrimage route has been activated recently which is a good sign for the region. The pilgrimage to the holy lake of ***Kailash Mansarovar*** since June 2015 has become an instant hit with pilgrims from all over the country.

Sikkim has made significant progress in various sectors. The State has been declared a fully organic State by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in January, 2016. The required technology, storage, cold chains and marketing are still posing to be major bottlenecks for the expansion of this sector. Therefore, since Sikkim has been the leader in organic farming, I request the Government of India, the Ministry of Home Affairs and NEC, to fund some of the areas in organic farming in the State especially in infrastructural front.

In return, we are ready to share our experience and expertise in organic farming and floriculture with rest of the sister States of NER and the country.

In the current year, the Government of Sikkim has laid emphasis on widening and improvement of our road networks in the State. We are widening the roads, improving the drainage and black topping most of the roads within the State.

Though, the cost of maintenance is quite exorbitant, the State will devote its resources for the next two years for overhauling our road network since road connectivity is still vital for transportation of men and goods within and outside the State.

Though Sikkim is well connected by roads within the State through major district roads, other district roads, earthen roads and PMGSY roads, maintenance of roads has remained a challenge due to harsh climatic conditions and the magnitude of annual onslaught of monsoon. In order to reduce the distance, time and cost, the State Government is proposing construction of tunnels at various stretches of road within the State.

Sikkim is connected with the rest of the country by a single connectivity through NH-10. This road is susceptible to landslide during the monsoon and frequent political disturbance in the neighbourhood. The State has already suffered a irreparable loss due to the Gorkhaland agitation since 1986.

We request Government of India to upgrade NH10 into a four lane highway with tunnels wherever feasible in order to reduce the distance and time with 100% central funding.

On 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 a Dornier Aircraft of the Air Force landed for the first time at the newly constructed Greenfield Airport at Pakyong. This was followed by a maiden flight of Spice Jet on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2018. The Spice Jet will use a 78 seater aircraft which will cover three circuits namely, Pakyong – Kolkata, Pakyong – Guwahati, Pakyong – Delhi.

The air connectivity will no doubt boost tourism and will have economic spin off for the State. Once it becomes operational, we no longer have to travel to Bagdogra in order to reach Guwahati and other bigger cities in the country. Sikkim is eagerly anticipating the formal inauguration of this long awaited airport at the earliest.

The railway project for Sikkim has been delayed over last one decade. Recently, the Gorkha Territorial Administration, Darjeeling has given its NOC to North Eastern Frontier Railways under the Forest Rights Act 2006. We now hope that the railways will speed up the construction work on the rail network to Sikkim.

The State of Sikkim stands higher compared to others when it comes to the critical indicators. The State would required further incentives to achieve pending developmental goals.

We have already achieved most of the Sustainable Development Goals mandated by the NITI Aayog, Government of India. Therefore, constant support of the Government of

India to Sikkim is vital to implement Sustainable Development Goals at the grass-root level more efficiently and comprehensively.

A per latest directives, there will be no priority list henceforth. The Project Identification Committee and the Chief Secretary of the respective North East States will select projects to be funded having interstate ramification with employment generation potential.

Very recently on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, 2018 at Gangtok, the secretary, NEC reviewed the 26 ongoing projects of the State. Against NEC release of Rs. 169.29 crores, we have utilized Rs. 147.48 crores. The State Government has requested for early consideration and sanction of the New District Hospital at Mangan and the Inter State Bus Terminus at Gangtok, which were earlier retained by NEC.

This time, the sports sector has been delinked from the NEC's purview. There has been a general consensus in the meeting that since sports is a way of life in the North Eastern Region, the matter would be placed in the governing council meeting of the NEC so that the sports sector is restored under the NEC's list of affairs.

An important issue that needs to be highlighted in today's forum is that the NEC needs to be provided with additional funds to meet its committed liabilities of the ongoing projects as well as to take up new projects, especially iconic projects and institutes proposed by the NEC in its proposal to Ministry of DoNER earlier.

Here, another major issue is being brought to the notice of the Governing Council that on 8<sup>th</sup> of May, 2018, the Secretary, NEC addressed a letter to all the eight Chief Secretaries of the North Eastern States. In the letter, it was stated that the Expenditure Finance Committee of Government of India has directed all fresh sanctions issued by NEC with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2017, be kept in abeyance till the ongoing NEC projects in the States are reviewed with a view to foreclose non-feasible projects. Thus, the unspent balances in the State already released by the NEC be liquidated by utilizing in the ongoing projects for which were intended.

The letter further adds that the State Governments are to ensure that further action on implementation of NEC projects sanctioned in 2017-18 are put on hold till further directions are issued.

These directives have been issued by Government of India without the prior knowledge of the NEC Governing Council. The NE States have been caught off guard by these directives. The pertinent issue that who will bear the cost over runs of the projects is to be seriously pondered.

In the above scenario, the State of Sikkim stands to lose around 42 (forty two) crores against 7 projects that have been sanctioned during this period. This issue was also

discussed in the meeting with the Secretary, NEC and he has agreed to take up the matter for discussion with the Project Identification Committee shortly. During the last financial year, the allocation to the State of Sikkim was a miserly Rs. 31 (thirty one) crores for the NEC schemes. We hope that this year the allocation would be enhanced in view of our good performance.

Amidst these bottlenecks, I welcome the decision of the Government of India for the new policy to continue funding old ongoing schemes at 90:10% funding and new schemes from 2017-18 to 2019-20 to be funded 100% by Government of India. This has come as a much needed relief to the North East fraternity.

Before I conclude, I would like to mention that the one common issue for the NER is the lack of connectivity which has proved to be the biggest hurdle to the development of the region and is also holding up unlocking the vast economic potential of the region.

Most of the North Eastern States suffer on account of harsh climate and difficult topography. Therefore, the road, railways, air and broadband connectivity in the region needs to be properly planned and strengthened. I am confident that once the issue of connectivity is resolved, the NER could achieve its true potential.

With these remarks, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to place some of my views at this Plenary Meeting. The Government of Sikkim will continue to support the efforts of the Government of India especially the NEC which has helped all round development of the region.

I hope that our views and aspirations will find due recognition in the developmental strategy for the future which will enable the accelerated and balanced development of the North Eastern Region.

**\*\*\* THANK YOU AND JAI HIND\*\*\***



**SPEECH OF**

**SHRI PEMA KHANDU**

**HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER**

**OF**

**ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

**67<sup>th</sup> PLENARY OF**

**NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL**

**AT**

**SHILLONG**

**ON**

**9<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

\*\*\*\*\*

---



**Hon'ble Chairman, Shri Rajnath Singh ji**  
**Hon'ble Vice-Chairman, Shri Jitendra Singh ji,**  
**Your Excellencies, Governor of North-Eastern States,**  
**My Colleagues, Hon'ble Chief Minister,**  
**Respected Members of NEC,**  
**Secretary DoNER,**  
**Secretary NEC,**  
**Secretaries of Government of India,**  
**Chief Secretaries of all North Eastern States,**  
**Senior Officers from Government of India and State Governments.**

1. It is indeed a great privilege for me to address this august gathering. The meetings at North Eastern Council not only provide a platform for North Eastern States to exchange the initiatives taken by them in key identified sectors but it also promotes cooperatives federalism by making States a partner in framing holistic vision for the development of the North-Eastern region.
2. I must inform the house that various steps and unprecedented interest taken by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in the North Eastern region has indeed turned Look East Policy into Act East Policy. Under his able leadership North Eastern region has embarked upon a new growth trajectory and has become the new engine of India' growth. Special attention now being given to the North Eastern region by Government of India on all fronts has indeed changed the mindset of not only the people of North east of other parts of the country too.
3. I would like to mention here that Arunachal Pradesh is one of the youngest States of the Indian Union and yet the largest in terms of area in the region. Arunachal Pradesh occupies a special position from a strategic standpoint, as it shares a long International Border with Myanmar to the east (440 Km), Bhutan to the West (160 Km) and China (to the north (1080 Km). Due to historical neglect, our State has lagged behind on most of the socio-economic indicators as compared to the rest of India and even within the North Eastern Region.
4. I am very happy to inform everyone that with the starting of 42-seater ATR aircraft service from Kolkata to Pasighat via Guwahati by Alliance Airlines, our State has entered a new era in civil aviation. I thank Hon'ble Prime Minister, the Civil Aviation Ministry and all concerned for the efforts taken to achieve this feat in a short time. Our second airport at Tezu is also ready for operation and air service to this eastern township is also expected soon. I would like to thank the North Eastern Council for funding this important project. I am hopeful that with the continued support of the Government of India under UDAAN-II, we will be able to link few other important and far-flung destinations of our State with the rest of the country which will boost connectivity, tourism and other economic activities.

5. Our dream of having an airport in the State Capital is yet to come true and the people of the States are eagerly waiting for this project to materialize. I would like to inform all that my Government has finalized the site of the Greenfield airport that is Hollongi and has reduced the cost of land acquisition and rehabilitation drastically by one third of the original cost. I would urge the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) to provide funds for Green Field Airport at Hollongi over and above its normative allocation of Rs. 195.90 Crore in the line of Tezu Airport funded by North Eastern Council.
6. I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the Hon'ble Home Minister of India, Shri Rajnath Singh Ji and MoS, Shri Kiren Rijiju for expediting the proposal submitted by the State Government for construction of Arunachal Frontier Highway along the International border and East West Industrial Corridor along the foothills. These projects on completion will strategically strengthen our armed forces at the border, promote tourism in border areas and mitigate migration of people from border villages to foothill areas.
7. Construction of the Trans Arunachal Highway is also progressing at a sluggish pace due to constraints of tough weather and massive landslides in the region. However once the project is completed, it will serve as the lifeline of the State and facilitate the movement of traffic from one corner of the State to the other without depending on connecting roads of Assam. I would like to brief the house that this project is under Design, Finance, Build, Operate and Transfer (DFBOT) mode which is under execution by MoRTH. It is a very grim situation although the land has been made available; the concessionaire has applied for foreclosure of the project. During the monsoon season nearly about 414Km long road is prone to flood damages mainly in the form of landslides and formation road wash outs. People of these areas are suffering due to the dilapidated road condition. Recent roads accidents at Akajan-Likabali-Bame stretch were very disturbing and it is related that NHIDCL takes necessary safety Measures to prevent such incidents in future.
8. The primary reason for foreclosure of Potin-Pangin stretch is that the project was too big to be implemented by one agency. During the meeting with Union Minister of Road, transport and Highways on 28/02/2018. It was decided to split the Potin-Pangin Stretch in realistic sections to complete the work immediately. I would like to request MoRTH to expedite construction of Potin-Pangin stretch, as State PWD has submitted 9 Nos. of DPRs to the Ministry as per the decision taken on 28/02/2018.
9. I would also like to request North Eastern Council (NEC) to give more emphasis on connectivity especially to the roads sector. Arunachal Pradesh has the lowest density of roads network in the North Eastern region. On the same lines of Central Road Fund, NEC can explore the possibility of forming a separate fund which focuses on big road projects in the North Eastern Region.
10. There is an important scheme that is North East Road Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS) which is under NEC and being administered and monitored by Ministry of

DoNER. Under the scheme, 10 orphan roads in Arunachal Pradesh bordering with Assam have been identified. However, while prioritizing the schemes, there is no representation of the State Government. I would request NEC and Ministry of DoNER to revisit the guidelines to include the representation of the State Governments while prioritizing the schemes. Further, the funding under NERSDS must be increased as the amount of Rs. 100 Crore is very meager for taking such a big project.

11. Development of Agriculture and its allied sectors is another area where our government has laid much emphasis. The vision of our Hon'ble Prime Minister for doubling farmers' income by 2022 has also inspired us since most of our people live in rural areas and they are dependent primarily on agriculture for their livelihood. Last year, we had conducted a Dream Change Arunachal Conclave 2027 and this year we organized State Conclave on Prospective Planning for Resurgent Agriculture. Both the conclaves witnessed more than 1000 visitors with speakers ranging from Government of India/State Governments, scientific institutions, Academics, private entrepreneurs and progressive farmers. Lot of important suggestions emerged from the conclaves which have been introduced in our state budget 2018-19.
12. It emerged during the conclave to focus on state specific crops and strengthening marketing infrastructure in the State. It also came out during the conclave that Arunachal Pradesh has about 25 lakh hectares of cultivable land out of which 7 lakh hectares are fit for wet rice cultivation through flood irrigation and 18 lakh hectares through micro irrigation. As of now only 3.5 lakh hectares are under cultivation of which 52,000 hectares are under irrigation coverage. We plan to bring 7 lakh hectares of more land under micro irrigation in near future with an estimated cost of Rs. 17,712 crore under PMKSY. In this regard, we solicit all possible help from the Ministry of DoNER and North Eastern Council. I also request north Eastern Council to establish a Regional research Center Institute for Agriculture and Allied Sector in Arunachal Pradesh.
13. During the conclave, it also emerged that there is a need to provide banking services to the farmers which is lacking in our state. We have launched lots of new schemes last year like CM Krishi Rinn Yojana, CM Bunkar Yojana and Swavalamban Yojana which had provision of providing capital subsidy and credit subsidy on farm and entrepreneur loans. However, the schemes did not yield much result because of lack of support from the banks. Our Credit Deposit Ratio is one of the lowest in the country (29%) against the national average of 78%. I would request Ministry of DoNER and NEC to provide a platform where we can have more formal interaction with banks to penetrate banking services in remote areas of our state.
14. I would also request Ministry of DoNER and NEC to provide us technical support in establishing forward and backward linkages in Agriculture and Horticulture sector which includes Cold chain processing units, Agriculture Mandis, IT Support to implement e-NAM and connect us with potential markets.

15. My State is also focusing on monitoring the performance of the various important PM/CM flagship programs. We have developed and launched Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Dashboard which will monitor Key Performance Indicators of the districts in health, education, rural development and other key priority sectors. We will also be releasing rankings of the districts in the identified Key Performance Indicators. This will help us in promoting healthy competition amongst the districts and will lead to a new culture of challenge based funding of projects in the State. The Planning Department has also developed a Satellite Based Monitoring System by Geo-Tagging all developmental projects including NEC and NELCPR/NESIDS projects being implemented in the State.
16. Another sector which has huge potential in our state is the Hydro Power Sector. Our state has a potential to generate 50,000MW of electricity which has not been tapped judiciously. The State government has now decided to firmly unleash the huge potential. Out of 151 hydro power projects leased, 15 have already been terminated. Out of the remaining 136 alive projects, 38 projects are below 25 MW and rest 98 projects to PSUs or Government undertakings wherever feasible as per mutual terms and conditions.
17. My state has recently got the letter of permission to start Tomo Riba Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (TRIHMS) from this academic year. I would like to thank Hon'ble Prime Minister and Health Minister to accord approval for operationalization of TRIHMs with 50 MBBS students. I request Government of India to increase the number of seats in the Medical College to at least 100 from the next year.
18. As per the Indian Council Medical Research's Report, the incidents of cancer cases are highest in Papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh. Apart from this, out of pocket expenses on health in Arunachal Pradesh are twice that of nation average. These trends clearly show that there are lacks of critical care services in our State. I would request NEC and Ministry of DoNER to link our State with prestigious Cancer care institutions of the country and explore the possibility of opening critical care unit in TRIHMS hospital by providing additional funds.
19. The easternmost part of the State comprising of Tirap, Changlang and Longding districts are comparatively backward and need special attention for equitable development. The people of these three districts are not emotionally inclined to the insurgent groups operating in these areas which have been trying to take advantage of the economic backwardness of the people. The insurgency in this area is devoid of support from the local people. The people in these districts largely do not share the ideology of insurgent groups of operating in the area. On the contrary, the faith in the basic principles of equality, freedom and fraternity as enshrined in the Constitution of India is respected and followed with vigour. We have submitted a comprehensive proposal to the ministry of Home Affairs for socio-economic development of TCL region to the tune of Rs. 1524 Crore. The objective of the plan is

to provide gainful employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in the region, enhance the infrastructure, improve the quality of governance especially in health, education and administration and ensure presence of police personnel in remotest corner of the region. I would like to request Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of DoNER and North Eastern Council to provide funds for the comprehensive proposal submitted to MHA.

20. Arunachal has the largest area under bamboo cultivation in the country. In spite of being endowed with considerable bamboo resource; we have been able to tap its true potential. NEC must support value addition resource through an integrated value chain project which links the farmer with the bamboo processing facilities. This will be a crucial source of livelihood for our people. We've submitted a proposal with regards to development of bamboo sector in Arunachal Pradesh with an outlay of Rs. 57 Crore to the NITI AAYOG. I would request Ministry of DoNER and NEC to take it up with NITI AAYOG for funding this important project.
21. Arunachal Pradesh has a huge tourism potential. It is one of the most beautiful and hot-spots of the country. North Eastern Council had recently guidelines and focused areas. Regional tourism has now been identified as one of the focused areas of NEC. This is a very positive step to lay focus on the tourism potential of the State. Tourism plays a vital role in the economic development of a State or Country. In India it is one of the largest foreign exchange earners. The tourism industry employs large number of people, both skilled and unskilled. It promotes national integration and international brotherhood. Our tourism is not restricted to one form and we have scope of developing spiritual tourism, eco-tourism, cultural tourism, Adventure tourism and development of special tourist circuits like Buddhist Circuit.
22. I would like to bring to the notice of the Council members that very recently the North Eastern Council has issued an instruction to keep release of funds against all newly sanctioned projects on hold and it is also informed that there would be Project Identification committee meeting where some sanctioned and retained projects could be dropped.
23. I would like to mention here that whatever projects have been retained by NEC during the year 2017-18 should be continued and sanctioned for the greater interest of the region. These projects were prioritized by the State on felt need basis and cancelling them without giving any opportunity to hear from the State will be unjustified.
24. I would request Hon'ble Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh Ji to sort out the matters regarding holding up of projects sanctioned during the year 2017-18. I would like to inform that in many cases, implementing agencies have already awarded the works and most of the projects have already been started with progress in some cases of 30%-40%. Abrupt termination of these projects may invite legal complications.
25. We also welcome the bold step taken by Ministry of DoNER in bringing out a new scheme that is NESIDS and closing the NLCPR scheme. However, I would request

Ministry of DoNER to sanction the projects which were retained in 2017-18 as all of them are road projects and there may be public outrage if the projects are closed. I also feel that guidelines framed must be applied for future projects and not retrospectively.

26. Further, since the minimum cost of 1 project under NEISIDS is Rs. 20 Crore, there hardly 4-5 projects that our state can take in a year due to limited funding available under the scheme. I would request Union Home Minister to enhance the budget of Ministry of DoNER so that the North Eastern region does not lag behind in development vis-à-vis other parts of the country.
27. It has been more than 46 years since the inception of North Eastern Council. It is no doubt that NEC has played a crucial role in funding important development projects in the region. However, time has now come that NEC expands its role from a mere funding agency to act as a premier think tank body of the North Eastern region which guides the North eastern States in bringing sustainable development in the region.
28. To achieve the same, there is a need to bring in domain experts in NEC who focus on developing clear cut roadmap for ushering massive investments in the region. Not only does North Eastern region requires adequate funds, but it also requires technical experts who suggest ways to bridge the massive divide between North Eastern region and rest of India.
29. For instance, my State, Arunachal Pradesh has a huge area but is struggling to tap its potential due to lack of human resource and technology. I would urge NEC to institute a detailed study as to how the massive area of my state can act as a boon for the region. The study must then translate into action by provision of adequate funding through various sources.
30. NEC must also find ways to showcase best practices of the states in the NER which can be replicated so that we all benefit from this common forum. Recently NITI Aayog has formed NITI forum for North east to address the regional imbalance in the North Eastern region. I would urge NEC to use this opportunity to emerge as a Planning Body of the North eastern Region by tying up with NITI Aayog.
31. I would also like to request Hon'ble Chairman to review the decision to remove the sectors like; Sports, IFC & WSM, Primary and Secondary Education from North Eastern Council. These sectors are very important for the region where NEC can play meaningful role. This may be reviewed in the interest of NE region.
32. In the end, I would request all the members present in the house to visit beautiful State of Arunachal Pradesh and give us an opportunity to show you the natural beauty of our State. I once thank the entire team of NEC for organizing the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session and hosting us at Shillong.

**Jai Hind! Jai Arunachal!**



**67<sup>th</sup> PLENARY MEETING OF THE  
NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL**

**SPEECH OF  
SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL  
CHIEF MINISTER, ASSAM**

**9<sup>TH</sup> and 10<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2018  
SHILLONG**

**SPEECH OF SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL, CHIEF MINISTER, ASSAM FOR 67<sup>TH</sup> PLENARY OF NEC AT STATE CONVENTION CENTRE, PINEWOOD HOTEL, SHILLONG ON 9<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2018**

Respected Rajnath Singhji, Hon'ble Home Minister of India and Chairman, NEC, Respected Jitendra Singhji, Hon'ble Minister, DoNER, Hon'ble Governors and Hon'ble Chief Ministers of North-Eastern States, Hon'ble Members of NEC and distinguished guests.

I am privileged to take part in the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of NEC. I must take this opportunity to express my gratitude to our most respected Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modiji, for enhancing the status of North-Eastern Council by making Shri Rajnath Singhji, Hon'ble Home Minister of India as its chairman. This act once again reflects Modiji's sincerity and concern for overall development of North-East region – which he fondly refers to as 'Ashtalakshmi.'

I congratulate and welcome Shri Rajnath Singhji, as Chairman of NEC. I am sure that under your leadership, the Council will be able to consolidate its role further and give push to development of the region. I also take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Dr. Jitendra Singhji for his continued efforts towards welfare of this region.

Respected Chairman, though nature has endowed North-East region with immense riches yet the region remained backward for so many decades. This bleak scenario of past is now all set to change with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision to make North-East as 'New Engine' of India's growth. To turn this vision into reality, Modiji enunciated Act East Policy with North-East at its centre. North-East has been put in the forefront of development initiatives of Central Government. We must thank Hon'ble Prime Minister for taking a keen interest in development of North-East region. He has ensured regular visits of Ministers and officers of Union Government to the region. He has himself visited North-East region many times. He has given tremendous push to development of infrastructure in the region, be it roads or railways or airways. The political will displayed by Hon'ble Modiji in mainstreaming North-East has no parallel in the history of the region. I am sure that Act East Policy will give rich dividends to the region in terms of tourism, investment and trade. It is here that the NEC being a pan regional body can play a crucial role. The NEC and the Ministry of DoNER may take up issues of infrastructure projects like roads, waterways, airways and telecom for better connectivity with South-East Asia with concerned Ministries of Government of India.

The NEC can fund some critical gaps, if necessary. For example in order to improve telecom network in the region, we need fibre optic cable connectivity with Cox Bazar landing station in Bangladesh. This international gateway has been accessed by BSNL to provide initial connectivity up to Agartala. However, due to high rentals of this landing station, BSNL has not brought the bandwidth to Assam and other North-Eastern States. Although the region has a huge potential to become an ITES and IT hub, the region is crippled because of poor bandwidth and speed. Ministry of DoNER or NEC can consider supporting BSNL in payment of rentals for initial few years. As a result, the region will get



the requisite high speed connectivity and bandwidth from Cox Bazar landing station to become an IT hub.

The NEC can also coordinate with Ministry of External Affairs to facilitate easy movement and people to people contact of North-East India with South and South-East Asia, which will lead to more tourism, trade and commerce. This requires opening up of consulates of ASEAN countries in Guwahati. Already Bangladesh and Bhutan have set up their consulates in Guwahati. The NEC can also take up with External Affairs Ministry to simplify existing visa regime including introduction of provisions like visa-on-arrival. The necessity of restricted area permit required for coming to North-Eastern region may be relaxed for ASEAN countries. I also humbly suggest that North-East Council may think of hosting festival in each of the ASEAN countries to project rich heritage, culture, handlooms, handicrafts, industrial and tourist potential of all North-Eastern States.

Respected Chairman, flood and erosion problem of Assam is probably the most acute in the country. The severity of flood and erosion problem in the Brahmaputra and Barak valleys has been accentuated by excessive silt flowing with water in tributaries of these two rivers. We need to address the problem in holistic manner. Last year, Assam witnessed devastating floods. After visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister, a Committee was set up under the chairmanship of Shri Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chancellor, NITI Aayog to recommend comprehensive measures to address this problem.

North-East is the store house of water resource in the country. Proper and judicious harnessing of this resource to the optimum will surely contribute to the national GDP growth. Since socio-economic development of the region totally depends on proper management of the Brahmaputra and Barak basins, it is necessary to set up an effective planning and management authority which would also help in solving flood and erosion problem.

Hon'ble Prime Minister has set the target of doubling farmers' income by 2022. Each state in the region is taking steps in this regard. Assam Government has launched Chief Minister Samagra Gramya Unnayan Yojana with financial outlay of Rs. 30,000 crore to be implemented in all 25,425 villages of the State. In this context I want to take this opportunity to thank our Hon'ble Prime Minister for increasing the minimum support price for paddy to Rs. 1750 per quintal. This will definitely encourage our farmers to grow paddy on commercial lines.

We have put our efforts to provide soil health cards to farmers in a mission mode. The works of sample collection, testing, analysis of soil samples, printing of cards have already been completed for the first cycle. The distribution of cards is going on and will be completed by July, 2018. So far over ten lakhs farmers have been provided with soil health cards. Meanwhile, works for second cycle has also been started and distribution of cards will be completed by March 2019. Water being an important input in farming, I would like to

suggest that we should take up scheme to inform farmers about health of water as desired by Hon'ble Prime Minister.

Hon'ble Prime Minister envisions the entire North-East to be a hub of organic farming. Accordingly, we have committed ourselves to promote organic farming in a big way. However, this region faces acute shortage of organic certification. I propose that NEC can form an organic certification agency for the whole region. NEC should also consider setting up of North-East Organic Agriculture University. Government of Assam is ready to provide land for this University.

Respected Chairman, North-Eastern region has the highest concentration of bamboo resources in the country. It accounts for 66 percent of India's bamboo. Using latest technology, the vast resources of bamboo can be used as a force multiplier for rapid industrialisation in the region. Promoting value addition in bamboo as an industry will work as a catalyst to materialise Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dream of making North-East as new engine of India's growth.

Respected Chairman, Assam has faced over three decades of insurgency like other States in the region. The security scenario has however gradually improved through a strategy of determined counter-insurgency operations coupled with dialogue with insurgents to make them give up violence and tread the path of peace and development. However, challenges still remain. The militants operating in one State find shelter in other State and cross over to neighbouring countries. There is a need for inter-state as well as international cooperation. There is also expansion of Islamic radical forces in the region. All North-Eastern States must come together to effectively meet the challenges.

Respected Chairman, we in the North-Eastern region may belong to separate States but we have common goal and destiny. We have lived harmoniously in the region for many centuries. Sometimes some problems do arise between various groups of people. Sometimes the problems assume inter-state character. However, all Chief Ministers and State Governments have acted promptly to address these issues. Assam shares borders with all North East States except Sikkim. I am thankful to Chief Ministers of Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh for their cooperation so that we could address the minor disputes along inter-State borders amicably. Most inter State border disputes in the region are being heard in the Supreme Court. Hence, I am not sure what role NEC can have in these cases. However, NEC can play an important role in chalking out programmes for promoting brotherhood amongst communities living on both sides of inter-State borders.

Assam has 7 aspirational districts. The Deputy Commissioners of these districts have formulated district action plans. We are implementing extended Gram Swaraj Abhiyan from 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2018 upto 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2018. Steps are being taken for implementation of seven flagship programmes in the 7 districts of Assam in a time bound manner.

As regards, Ayushman Bharat Yojana, I am happy to inform that Assam is one of the first States to sign MOU with National Health Agency on 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2018. The Government of Assam, in the mean time, has launched its own scheme Atal Amrit Abhiyan covering 92% of population with annual income less than Rs. 5 lakhs for 6 critical disease groups such as cancer, heart diseases with cover up to Rs. 2 lakh per individual. The scheme which runs as a trust model has already enrolled more than 1.5 crore persons. Till date, 4306 persons have availed cashless treatment under the scheme in empanelled public and private hospitals, and so far Rs. 11.42 crore has been expended in cashless mode. Atal Amrit Abhiyan will be dovetailed with Ayushman Bharat Yojana.

Poshan Abhiyaan was launched in five districts of Assam on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2018. In the meantime various committees have been formed and State level workshop has been held. The district level multi-sectoral workshop for all the 5 Phase-I districts have also been held.

I am happy to inform you that Assam is promoting livelihood amongst self help groups through Assam State Rural Livelihood Mission. I request NEC to include districts of Assam in any new initiative in livelihood promotion.

Any forward movement on Act East Policy requires establishing strong and robust transportation networks in the region. To improve road connectivity in the State, Centre has declared 15 new national highways with length of 1025 km. Besides, 31 State roads with aggregate length of 1846 km have also been declared as national highway 'in principle.' NHIDCL has taken the responsibility for up-gradation and development of a total of 27 road projects covering 993 km. Out of these, 19 projects are presently under civil execution which covers approximately 478 kms. The projects include 4-lane connectivity from Numaligarh to Dibrugarh on NH-37, Nagaon to Hologgi on NH-52 including a bridge on river Brahmaputra near Kaliabhomora. All these roads are important for Assam as well as neighbouring States in North East. However, the progress is far from satisfactory. NHIDCL may be asked to speed up construction and at the same time maintain the existing roads in traffic worthy condition till completion of the projects.

Respected Chairman, NEC funds development projects in the States. However, over the years, the allocation for the States has been reduced and the procedure of sanction of projects and release of funds is tedious and time consuming. This requires to be addressed immediately. We request NEC to make sanction of the projects speedier. I further suggest that NEC should release fund in two instalments in lump sum for a year instead of scheme wise release.

I thank Hon'ble Chairman for giving me the opportunity to share my views with my colleagues from North-East. In the days to come, I am sure that NEC under your leadership will be more proactive and bring new hope to the region.

**JAI HIND**



**GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR**

**SPEECH**

**OF**

**SHRI N BIREN SINGH,**

**HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER, MANIPUR**

**AT**

**THE 67<sup>th</sup> NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL MEETING**

**9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

**Shillong**

**Hon'ble Union Minister of Home Affairs & Chairman of the North Eastern Council, Shri Rajnathji, Hon'ble Union Minister of DoNER and Vice-Chairman of North Eastern Council, Dr. Jitendra Singhji, my Distinguished Colleagues & Members of the Council, Ladies and Gentlemen**

It is a privilege for me to take part in this august gathering of the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary session of North Eastern Council. I am confident that under the leadership of our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modiji and with the support of dynamic Union Ministers Shri Rajnathji and Dr. Jitendraji, the concern of NE states will be addressed for overall socio-economic development of the region and to maintain peace in north-east region. I take this opportunity to put forward my views on issues of our concerns for further deliberation.

### **PROJECTS SANCTIONED DURING 2017-18**

The recent decisions of the Ministry of DoNER and the NEC in withholding the schemes already approved by NEC since April 2017, is one of the major concerns. In fact, the NEC has sanctioned 29 new projects to Manipur during 2017-18 and 2018-19 for an amount of Rs. 186.96 crores and released Rs. 38.34 crores towards first instalment. The State Government has made public announcement of these projects and all the projects are in different stages of execution. Keeping on hold of all these projects at this stage will have adverse impact on the image of both Central and State Governments. It may be appreciated that the State Government also does not have enough resources to continue these projects. Sir, I would like to draw the attention of Hon'ble Minister DoNER, Dr Jitendraji and Shri Naveen Verma, Secretary, DoNER, to whom I have written letters requesting to review the decision. I once again appeal through this august House to allow State Government to continue execution of these projects and provide budget provision for these ongoing projects. Sir, I will appreciate if necessary clarification on budget provision for these ongoing projects is made.

### **ANNUAL PLAN FOR 2018-19**

There is need to give priority for completion of ongoing projects and take up new projects in core thrust area. I understand that NEC has been allocated Rs. 4,500 crores for the years 2017-2020. However, out of this allocation, the entire amount has been adjusted against committed liabilities under NEC and NLCPR, North East Road Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS), leaving a negative balance for taking up any new scheme. The primary mandate of the NEC is defeated if new schemes are not approved. I suggest that NEC budget provision for 2017-18 to 2019-2020 may be enhanced to Rs. 7500 crores so as to adjust liabilities of new projects already sanctioned by NEC and to allow sanction of new schemes for 2018-19.

Sir, for new projects under NEC, I, understand that Chief Secretary is a member of the Project Identification Committee for identified sectors. However, in the sectors already identified by Expenditure Finance Committee and M/DoNER, some important priority areas

require critical gap funding. These left out sector include Water supply, Sports and Youth activity sectors. I would like to seek support of this august House to include and continue funding of water supply and Sports sectors under NEC.

**OTHER ISSUES:**

**NEC AS A MAJOR PARTNER IN THE GOVERNMENT'S ACT EAST POLICY INITIATIVES**

Sir, Manipur is poised as the "Gateway to South East Asia" because of its geographical and locational advantage. Moreh town in Manipur is the centre of trade with Myanmar. Vide Gazette Notification Dated June 1, 2018, Ministry of Home Affairs has notified Moreh as Immigration point for entry and exit with valid documents. Imphal is well connected by flight, by road and will soon be connected by Jiribam-Tupul-Imphal railway line. Asian Highway-1 and Asian Highway-2 will pass through Moreh and Imphal. Manipur has potential in sports and tourism, ranging from eco-tourism, adventure tourism, cultural and ethnic heritage tourism, and health tourism. I am confident that Manipur is poised to play a major role in actualising Act East Policy. NEC may be included as a major partner in the Government's Act East Policy.

**LIVELIHOOD PROJECTS:**

Sir, the North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Society implemented in Ukhrul, Senapati, Churachandpur and Chandel districts are doing well in improving livelihoods for people of those areas and has transformed the lives of the rural women of villages covered under the project. Based on the success of this project, my State has requested for expansion of project to Tamenglong, Imphal East, Jiribam districts for upliftment of the poor and weaker section of our Society under Phase-IV. I appeal for clearance of this project early. This was also discussed in the last plenary meeting.

**SPORTS & YOUTH ACTIVITIES:**

Sir, I would like to reiterate importance of Sports & Youth Activities for the North East States and Manipur in particular. We all know the contribution made by our youths from Manipur and other North East States in the field of sports. Our sportspersons have brought laurels and glory to the Country by winning numerous medals at National and International games and sports. I am thankful to Hon'ble Prime Minister Modiji for setting up Sports University in Manipur. However, Expenditure Finance Committee or the Ministry of DoNER has omitted Sports, as a priority area of the NE states and excluded from funding under NESIDS as well as NEC. Sir, I seek the support of this august House and draw the attention of the Hon'ble Chairman to consider Sports as a priority area, where infrastructure development is required at block and field level to come up with future potential sports persons. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports budget is very limited and not sufficient to meet the requirement of all the States. Sir, our footballers and players need playground, and the support so that they can play and practice year round. Most of these fields get

submerged during rainy season and not fit for practice for five to six months. I seek support of this house for continuation of Sports Sector under NEC funding.

**HILL AREA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN THE NORTH EAST (HADP):**

Sir, I would like to place on record my appreciation for Ministry of DoNER and Dr. Jitendraji's efforts for launching Hill Area Development Programme. This will provide the much needed location specific solutions to address crucial problems of the hills. Topographic and need based budgeting is crucial for development of backward areas. We have constituted the State Level Sanctioning Committee and District Level Committees in compliance of the guidelines and we are expecting the programme to start soon. I seek the support of Ministry of DoNER for extension of this programme to Chandel District, which is an aspirational district of Manipur, as identified by NITI Aayog as the most backward district of state.

I would like to thank the Chairman of North Eastern Council & Union Minister of Home Affairs and Vice Chairman of NEC and Minister of DoNER for giving this opportunity for sharing my views and concern. I hope that my suggestions and views will be taken into consideration by the Council.

JAI HIND



Speech of

**Shri Conrad K. Sangma**

Hon'ble Chief Minister, Meghalaya

at the

67<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session of North Eastern Council

at

State Convention Centre, Pinewood Hotel,

Shillong

**On the 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2018**



**Hon'ble Union Home Minister & Chairman, N.E.C. Shri Rajnath Singh Ji, Hon'ble Union Minister of State, Ministry of DoNER & Vice Chairman, NEC, Dr. Jitendra Singh Ji, Distinguished Members of the North Eastern Council, Officials from the Government of India, N.E.C., State Governments and Friends.**

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome the Chairman of the NEC and all the distinguished dignitaries from the Government of India and different States of the North East to Shillong. On behalf of the people of Meghalaya, I would like to extend my well-wishes to Shri Rajnath Singh Ji, on his new assignment as the Chairman of the NEC. I am sure that with your vast experience and knowledge, the region will be served. The plenary meetings of the NEC offer an important occasion for all of us to interact with each other and to discuss on the important issues which concerns our region. I firmly believe that the NEC will continue to shape the growth trajectory of the NE States.

I would like to place before this august house some of the key common issues and state specific issues that need to be resolved along with the views and suggestions of the State Government on the agenda points for today's meeting.

1. The State of Meghalaya, like the other North Eastern States, still needs to overcome the challenges of development gaps and disparities across all sectors. The North Eastern Council, as per the mandate, has been instrumental in supplementing the developmental initiatives of the State of the North Eastern Region. The NEC Budget for 2018-19 is Rs. 1134.00 crores out of which 60% of the budget i.e. Rs.681.00 crores is set aside for funding projects proposed by the States, as against Rs.880.00 crores which was allocated for the states during 2017-18 out of the budget of Rs..925.00 crores. The decline in NEC's budget allocation for development programmes does not augur well for the region. Without suitable financial backing from the NEC, it will be difficult for the N.E.States to reach the desired level of growth and development as envisioned in the NE Vision 2020. The Government of India, therefore, will require to review the fund allocation to the North Eastern Council by raising the annual budget size to at least Rs.2000.00 crore, so as to enable the NEC to fulfil its mandate for ensuring sustainable growth and development in the North East.
2. An important issue which I would like to flag before this august gathering relates to the recent decision of the NEC to concentrate on specific sectors like bamboo, piggy, regional tourism, higher education, tertiary healthcare, telemedicine and Science & Technology. Further, the Ministry of DoNER has also decided to wind up the Non Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) which replaced by the North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) where funding for important infrastructure is also extremely limited. These recent decisions on the part of the Ministry of DoNER and the NEC will have a dampening effect on the socio-economic development of the NE States as investments in the crucial sectors such as

Human Resource Development and Employment, Power, Transport and Communication Sector will be affected. It would be impossible for the resource in-elastic States of the NE Region to be able to take up key infrastructure projects on their own.

3. From the recent communications received from the Ministry of DoNER and the NEC, there is very likelihood that the NEC will withdraw the sanctions to schemes and projects which were accorded during 2017-18. Further, it is also unlikely that the NEC will convey its approval to the important scheme and projects which have been retained in the preceding years. These decisions of the Ministry of DoNER and the NEC has led to a sense of disquiet amongst the NE States and has disheartened the State Governments who have spent considerable time, effort and money in the preparation of the DPRs for these projects. In the spirit of the federal structure, any important decision on change of approach and guidelines must be taken at the Plenary Session of the North Eastern Council. Therefore, Plenary pending any further decision which be decided in the Plenary Session for any modification of guidelines or changed approach, I would urge upon the Ministry of DoNER and the NEC to review their recent decisions and to continue providing financial assistance to the developmental programmes of the States, as has been done in the past. Delay in processing for sanctioning and implementation will slow down the pace of investment and development which will affect the State and the region as a whole.
4. The year 2022 is an important year for Meghalaya and the country as a whole since the State will celebrate 50<sup>th</sup> year of statehood and India will also celebrate its 75<sup>th</sup> year of Independence. To mark this important occasion, the State Government has envisioned putting in place certain milestones such as affordable health care, total sanitation, quality education, clean drinking water supply, etc. To be able to achieve these targets, we would required to assistance and expertise of the Central Government including the NEC.
5. **National Games 2022** : Another important event which scheduled in 2022 in Meghalaya is the hosting of the National Games. To make this event success, several indoor and outdoor stadiums for hosting the various event will have to be put in place. We are grateful to the NEC for providing financial support of Rs.29.65 crore for construction of two stadia in the State during 2017-18. However, additional infrastructure is required to be put in place to enable the State Government to host the event. The fund requirement for the creation of the stadia, games village, etc is estimated to be about Rs.1500.00 crore. The State Government has put forward a request to the Government of India for a special grant for this purpose which may be routed through the Ministry of DoNER and the NEC.
6. **Umroi Airport** : In March 2018, an amount of Rs. 178.38 Crore was sanctioned by the NEC for extension of the runway Umroi airport to make the airport suitable for operation of A-320 type of aircrafts to land. The Airport Authority of India has pointed out that few obstacles will need to be removed in the approach funnel on the

northern side of the airport, if larger airplanes were to land. The obstacles are in the form of trees, hills, buildings and human settlements within the approach funnel. The cost of removal of these obstructions is enormous and will be time consuming and they will involve issues like environmental clearances, re-location of habitations, land acquisition process, etc. The NEC and the Government of India is requested to assist the State Government in ensuring that the airport becomes functional for the larger aircrafts.

7. The State Government proposes to establish an Open School for children with special needs at Shillong. The open school will cater to the educational needs and provide vocational training for such children of Meghalaya and other NE States. I urge upon the NEC to take up the matter of setting up of the Open School with the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. The State Government will provide land for the purpose.
8. Meghalaya is one of the seventeen States in the country which have been declared as Open Defecation Free (ODF). The other states of the North East which have been declared as ODF are Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Sikkim. The State of Meghalaya is now striving for achieving the status of ODF Plus and ODF Sustainability. Programmes and projects for effective management of solid and liquid waste in the villages through community approach, IEC and Capacity Building programmes on various aspects of waste management are being initiated by State Government so as to achieve ODF Plus and ODF Sustainability. The State Government is seeking the support of the Government of India under Swachh Bharat Mission to achieve this endeavour.
9. **Setting Up of a Technology Park in New Shillong** : The Meghalaya Information Technology Society plans to realize its vision of transforming the State into one of the most preferred and leading destinations for investments in highend technology & electronics industry in the NE. The vision/concept of the Technology Park is to promote entrepreneurship and technological innovation primarily in the ICT, ITeS and Electronics sectors by providing facilities which are self sustainable and an environment which is conducive for attracting investment, expertise and talent from high potential individuals and organizations thereby generating employment and contributing to the socio-economic development of the State and the region besides building 'Brand Shillong' as a preferred investment destination. Detailed action plan will be taken by the State to bring business/ anchor tenants to the tech park and to develop a self-sustenance plan. I, Therefore, urge NEC and Government of India to support this proposal.
10. Connectivity is the most important key to development of a region; be it road, rail, waterways, air, power or telecommunication. Connectivity helps in the overall economic development and social integration of the region. The present status of telecommunication in the region requires upgradation to ensure a faster and more reliable connectivity with a larger area of coverage. I urge upon the Government of

India to provide special attention to this matter and to put in place schemes to improve internet connectivity In the region.

- 11. Act East Policy :** About 98% of the region's border form India's international boundary. Given its strategic location,, this region can be developed as the base for India's growing economic links not only with the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) but also with neighbouring countries viz., Bangladesh, Bhutan, China & Nepal. There is a need for international air connectivity between the North Eastern States with Yangoon , Naypyidaw in Burma, Bangkok and other South East Asian cities for promotion of trade and tourism. Further, Special Economic Corridors and Special Economic Zones (SEZs) need to be developed with focus on export and also to meet the domestic demands of the region. Our main focus should be on processing units of agricultural and allied produces which can also generate employment. NEC should be mandated to take up this issue with the Government of India on behalf of the NE States.
- 12. Tourism :** Over the recent years, there has been a boom in the flow of both domestic and international tourists in the State. There is a demand for the development of tourist circuits to encourage tourists to explore the hidden and exotic destinations in the State showing casing its huge bio-diversity and unique culture. This would include eco-tourism, adventure tourism and cave tourism. The North Eastern States have similar potentiality and can collectively become one of the most favoured tourist destinations. To promote the region as an exclusive tourist destinations, investment in inter-state air, road, rail and water connectivity is required. Being a regional body, the NEC should continue to spearhead development of these crucial sectors.
- 13. Maintenance of assets built through NEC funds :** NEC had played a crucial role in building of infrastructure in the North East since its inception. As it continues to build new assets, it is also important not to lose what has already been built. The proposal by NEC for up-gradation of previously funded roads is a welcome step and needs to be acted upon expeditiously with adequate earmarked funds. The scope of the support must also be extended beyond roads to cover buildings and life saving medical equipments which has been supported by NEC in the past.

I hope that the deliberations and decisions of this august house would be fruitful for the benefit of the NE people. In conclusion, I would like to thank you once again for having given me the opportunity to place my views before this august gathering.

**THANKING YOU**

**JAI HIND**



**Speech  
of  
Shri Lal Thanhawla  
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Mizoram**

**at the  
67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of the North Eastern Council**

**9-10 July 2018**

**State Convention Centre,  
Shillong Meghalaya**

**Hon'ble Union Minister and Chairman of NEC Shri Rajnath Singh ji, Vice Chairman of NEC Dr. Jitendra Singh, Hon'ble Governors of the North Eastern States, Hon'ble Chief Ministers of the North Eastern States, Members of the North Eastern Council, Senior officials of the Ministry of DoNER, NEC and State Governments, Ladies and Gentlemen**

1. At the outset, let me welcome Shri Rajnath Singhji the Hon'ble Union Home Minister, our new Chairman, into the North East fraternity and I hope that under his dynamic leadership the objectives of North Eastern Council are fully realized.
2. I am happy to learn that our agenda today will focus mainly on the issues relating to the strengthening and reorganization of the North Eastern Council. As you are aware, the North Eastern Council (NEC) was constituted as a statutory advisory body under the NEC Act 1971 (84 of 1971) and came into being on the 7<sup>th</sup> November, 1972. The Plenary Council is considered to be the highest decision making authority for the NEC.
3. Recent decision of the Government of India for repositioning of the North Eastern Council for conflict resolution, development planning and knowledge hub for the North eastern Region and rolling out of new NEC scheme for 2018-2020 is a welcome step. However, such decision is expected to be determined by the Plenary meeting of the North Eastern Council. I am very sorry to learn that decision on the new NEC scheme approved by the Union Cabinet on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 bypassed the Council, and the new Scheme came to us by surprise.
4. In this regard, I would like to submit that Rs. 4500 crores earmarked for the new NEC scheme for the whole north eastern States during 2017-18 to 2019-20 is going to be too less to have meaningful impact for the Region's Development. The earmarked fund includes Rs. 2357 crores for committed liabilities for ongoing projects, Rs. 1000 crores for NERSDS, and Rs. 640 crores for NLCPR (C) liabilities. There is no fund left for new project during the new Scheme period. It is highly doubtful that the North Eastern Region can be made to be an 'engine of growth' as the Hon'ble Prime Minister has envisioned. We will have to significantly enhance funds allocated to the NEC, so as to have meaningful impact for the region's development.
5. Moreover, North Eastern States are also asked to put on hold project sanctioned during 2017-18 as the new scheme effective period is scheduled from 2017-18. We have 12 projects sanctioned during 2017-18 and all these projects have already been processed for implementation or work have already been started, and the State will not be in a position to hold them back anymore. NEC and Ministry of DoNER were requested to re-consider the matter and allow the State to process the projects as sanctioned. If we are not allowed to continue, it was apprehended that there may be serious implication in terms of cost, credibility of the Central Government, and even legal issues. We strongly recommend

immediate continuation of these projects to solve the problem being faced by all the North Eastern States.

6. We welcome the proposal to reposition NEC into a Council for conflict resolution. In this regard, the Council should first be appropriately equipped to do such important task and also appropriate platform would need to be established to share and decide important issues at appropriate levels with concern Ministries in the Government of India.

7. We also agree with the proposal that the North Eastern Council could be made to become knowledge hub for the North East Region. The North Eastern Council may be able to play meaningful role to oversee the protection of environment, biodiversity and improvement of ecology of the region. Moreover, the NEC may help State Governments in establishing institute of repute in their respective states. In this regard, I am happy to inform you that the Medical Council of India has approved establishment of first medical College in Mizoram MIMER. The State Government is taking lot of efforts and spending its own funds to qualify for such establishment. I hope that the North Eastern Council will consider supporting our State in this endeavour.

8. The proposal for inclusion of the NEC as a major partner in the Act East Policy is heartening. The erstwhile Look East Policy gave hope to the people of North East particularly for trade-led growth of the NE Region and its economic integration with one of the fastest growing economies i.e. South East Asia. We initially considered that with the Look East Policy, North Eastern Region had, for the first time, become an important competent of India's foreign policy bringing a new paradigm of development in the North East perspective. As such, Look East Policy of the Government of India was an important land mark in the history of North Eastern Region. However, even after almost two decades of its policy announcement, it has had no impact on the region's economy. The required ground support like a detailed product and market specific study of the region's export potential, a competitive production base, developed infrastructure and involving the local people as informed stakeholders are still required. The fact that India's North East states are the gateway to India's relation with its neighbouring countries has been ignored for quite a long time. Perhaps, we may need to act "North East" before acting "East".

9. If Act East Policy is to be made into reality, State Governments of the North East should be sufficiently involved both at the level of policy formulation and implementation. Mizoram has a long international boundary with Myanmar and Bangladesh. The people of the State have trade relationship with the people across the border in formal and informal forms in some border trade points. These practices need to be institutionalized for socio-economic upliftment of local populous, State, Region and Country as a whole.

10. I believe that lack of connectivity remains the biggest hurdle to the development in the region and is holding up the unlocking of the vast economic potential of the region. Connectivity among the North Eastern States has always been neglected. Particularly due to harsh climate and topography, road, railways and air connectivity to the region need to be properly planned and strengthened. Our immediate requirement is construction, up-gradation and proper maintenance of roads within the North Eastern Region.

11. We may at least emphasize on the first line of action, which I think is digital connectivity, which holds the key to communication in real time. Moreover, a concept which has gained currency in recent times is cultural connectivity. This is especially relevant for the North East. While the region itself is a cultural and ethnic mosaic, the cultural similarity and affinity with the South East Asian bloc is undeniable. This asset must also be utilized to the fullest.

12. As I have said earlier, although the Look East policy was in existence for more than two decades, nothing much as happened beyond opening of border trade points. A fresh insight has come about after rephrasing the policy to Act East Policy. Several issues and challenges such as trade and investment complementarities, connectivity, security, strategic partnership with East Asian countries are there which need to be put in place in order to reap significant benefits from such a policy.

13. I would strongly suggest that the policy may need to graduate from rhetoric to specific action plan. We may need to develop a policy document with detail action plan including development plans for the North East Region.

14. Let me also share some important initiatives of my State.

15. Since Mizoram largely remained unexplored for a very long period of time due to various reasons, it was important for us to reach out to the world and showcase our state and its advantages to the world. We have launched Magnetic Mizoram campaign vigorously. We believe that we can achieve much more with better private investment flow to the State. The Magnetic Mizoram Investors Summit has been held with our own funds as one of the landmark initiatives of the Government towards the development of business in the State.

16. The summit is the first of its kind in Mizoram and is a sure to become a great networking stage aimed at exploring ideas that would help the State to achieve inclusive and sustainable development by ensuring policy coherence and effective investment promotion. We have also organized the Indian film festival in Mizoram at a grand scale, which was attended by some of the biggest film makers of India. We are very happy to learn that the Film Makers were so impressed with Mizoram. We have also held road shows in Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata with impressive responses from corporate.

17. We are sure that the Magnetic Mizoram campaign would leverage Mizoram's key potential areas like Energy, Tourism, Horticulture, Adventure Sports, Bamboo, Floriculture, Handicrafts & Handlooms, Creative Industry etc. and connect with global investors providing a networking platform to amplify interaction between stakeholders through B2G and B2B meetings.

18. My Government is trying its very best to achieve sustainable high and inclusive growth in the State. We have been implementing the New Economic Development Policy (NEDP) – a comprehensive growth strategy for Mizoram since 2016. The main objective is to bring about a sea change in the way priorities are placed in matters of economic development and governance to ensure that the State fully capitalizes on the new



opportunities placed before it with the end objective of Mizoram being able to attain a robust and self-sustaining economy in the long run.

19. Our achievement so far has been quite impressive. I am happy to inform you that Mizoram has been one of the highest growing economies among the States in India. We are among the four States that recorded above 8% growth rate during the last four years – along with Gujarat, Jharkhand and Tripura. We are doing well in Human Development Indicators – we are number two in terms literacy percentage; we are number one among the small States and overall number two in Health Index prepared by World Bank Group and NITI Aayog.

20. I am happy to see that the North Eastern Council has recognized this important Policy and initiative of my State and had circulated the New Economic Development – Comprehensive growth Strategy for Mizoram documents to all Chief Secretaries in the North eastern States for possible replication in their own States.

21. To conclude, I would like to reiterate that we in the North Eastern States are trying our best efforts to make progress in our respective States. There is, however, ample scope for larger involvement of the North Eastern Council for socio-economic development of the Region. The existing development lag must be bridged through credible infrastructure for sustainable development in the region to make North East Region as “new engine of growth” in the country.

22. Thank you.



**SPEECH**  
**OF**  
**SHRI. NEIPHIU RIO**  
**HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER**  
**OF**  
**NAGALAND**

**67<sup>th</sup> PLENARY OF**  
**NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL**  
**AT**  
**STATE CONVENTION CENTRE, SHILLONG**  
**ON**  
**9<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

**Speech by Shri. Neiphiu Rio, Chief Minister of Nagaland during the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of the North Eastern Council on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 at Shillong.**

1. Shri. Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Union Home Minister and Chairman of NEC, Dr. Jitendra Singh, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for DoNER and Vice Chairman of NEC, Hon'ble Governors of the North East States, my esteemed colleagues, the Chief Ministers, distinguished members of the NEC, officials of the Government of India and the North Eastern States, distinguished participants, ladies and gentlemen.
2. First of all, I must thank and congratulate the Honorable Prime minister Shri Narendra Modi ji and the NDA Government for reconstituting the NEC and making the Honorable Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh ji as the Chairman of the NEC. I am hopeful that under the sincere efforts of Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh ji and MoS for DoNER Dr. Jitendra Singh ji, we will witness fast-paced development in all corners of the region in an equitable, inclusive and practical manner. We assure our full-fledged cooperation to the NEC and the Government of India in our common endeavours of nation building. We agree that a developed northeast is a developed India. We are all members of "Team India" and we look up to the leaders present here and the honourable PM to change the destiny of the people on all fronts.
3. Therefore, it is an honour and a privilege to be present here at the 67<sup>th</sup> Plenary of the NEC being hosted at Shillong. I am optimistic that the deliberations during the plenary will deal with the common problems faced by the region as a whole while also addressing State-specific issues and together we will be able to chalk out the way forward. With this in mind, I would like to place before the Council some key issues for consideration.

**MATTERS RELATING TO NEC**

4. The need to strengthen the NEC for overall regional development cannot be over emphasized and the objectives of setting up the Council can be best achieved only by providing sufficient funds and upholding the Council in its endeavours. May I suggest to the Government of India to ensure that henceforth, the Budget of the NEC be withdrawn and the funds allotted to the NEC be utilised basically for the NEC works and not for clearing the liabilities of the Government bodies and agencies of the region. In fact, it may be pointed out that there has been sufficient accumulation of funds under 10% due for allocation which may be allotted to the Ministry of DoNER both for clearing of the liabilities and taking up new schemes.
5. I would also like to mention here that the present system of priority lists and retention of projects sanctioned/ approved causes delay and enormous energy, time and resources are wasted chasing these projects thereby delaying development. There is much ambiguity with regard to what will be approved that the States are

not able to plan their own projects and works. Most North Eastern States are resource-starved and it is vital that funds through NEC are properly accounted for. In addition, projects that are retained and put on priority lists raise the expectations of the people. However, delay in their approval creates a negative impact in the minds of the people for which the State Governments and the political leadership often end up in an uncomfortable position. This further contributes towards deficits in confidence of the people upon the Central Government.

6. Another challenge is that there are multiple bodies and agencies like the NEC, DoNER and the recently created North East Forum. There is a need for clarity on the roles between these bodies and budgets need to be allocated to the States and flexibility should be allowed for the State governments for utilization of these allocations. The NEC as a statutory body can effectively achieve its goals of widespread development of the region when administrative hurdles and unnecessary roadblocks are removed so that fast-paced development positively impacts the lives of the population. This will surely transform the region into a hub of bustling trade and commerce and elevate the region as the country's gateway to the South East Asian countries under the Government of India's Act East Policy. I would therefore appeal to all the distinguished participants gathered here today to join hands together and work tirelessly towards this end so that the people look up to the GoI, the NEC and the respective State Governments in positive light.
7. NEC as a Council for conflict resolution, development planning and knowledge hub may enable States and implementing agencies to properly plan and execute projects, promote research and innovations and provide strategic policy vision for the region. Since inception, NEC has been doing a commendable job in the development of the NE Region. However, in comparison with other States and regions of the country, we still have a long way to go for which I would encourage the Council to continue to play a proactive role in the march towards all round development.
8. The Act East Policy is a commitment of the Government of India and a long-cherished dream of the North Eastern States. It is imperative to put in place the NE region as the gateway for trade and other economic activities with South East Asian countries. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that the progress of northeastern India is "at the heart of the Act East Policy" of the Government. In this regard, NEC as Regional Planning Body has a major role to play in opening up the country to South-east Asia.

## **INFRASTRUCTURE AND CONNECTIVITY**

9. Infrastructure and connectivity are two basic requirements essential for economic development of a region. The need for infrastructure becomes more acute for hilly and mountainous areas that are on one hand difficult to traverse and on the other hand tend to be sparsely populated. Thus, there is a need for heavy investments in

infrastructure development such as road, rail and air networks, power generation, high-speed internet connectivity etc.

10. A land locked State, like Nagaland, depends totally on road, air and rail connectivity and there is a need to strengthen the same to achieve physical integration with the mainland and give impetus to economic development. One of the major challenges of road connectivity, on which we are overwhelmingly dependent, is maintenance. Nagaland is marred with unstable soil condition; landslides and heavy rainfall aggravating damage to roads shortening its life span. Limited resources of the State compounds this problem. I request that this Forum may address this problem by making a provision for maintenance of roads.
11. Kohima, the capital of Nagaland, does not have an airport till date. This issue has been brought up in various national forums. The then Prime Minister of India, Shri. Atal Bihari Vajpayee had desired for development of the Ciethu Greenfield Airport project for Kohima. Government of Nagaland had acquired around 300 acres of land for this purpose and the Airports Authority of India have made technical survey and there is a suitability of having a 2500-meter Airstrip at the proposed site and also has the possibility for further expansion in future. However, the project is yet to be materialized, therefore, depriving Kohima, the only State capital from air connectivity.
12. On the upgradation of the Dimapur Airport, it needs to be sanctioned on priority as the construction of new airport terminal at Dimapur has remained in the master plan for years now and is yet to be an approved project.
13. While air connectivity has improved across the country, Nagaland still has only two flights a day. There is no direct flight to Delhi and very often one-way fares to Delhi vary from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 33,000. There is an urgent need to introduce more flights connecting Dimapur to Guwahati, Kolkata and Delhi. The national carrier, Air India must play a more contributory role by at least introducing a daily flight that connects to the national capital directly either via Guwahati or Kolkata.
14. In this regard, the Gol's "Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik – Regional Connectivity Scheme" (UDAN-RCS) would play a pivotal role in establishing interconnectivity between Nagaland and other States of the region and the country. I therefore take this opportunity to request the Government of India and the NEC to kindly look into the matter so that the common citizens of Nagaland can benefit from this policy like our neighbouring sister states.

## **TOURISM**

15. In the absence of large-scale industries, tourism is one of the alternatives that can play a pivotal role in the socio-economic development of the State. Like the rest of the region, Nagaland, with its vibrant culture and heritage, panoramic landscapes

and natural beauty, rich exotic flora, fauna and biodiversity offers unique experiences for tourists unlike anywhere else.

16. The challenge lies in making the State accessible to the tourists from mainland India and other countries. The State and the region in general face acute problems in connectivity as mentioned earlier. It is suggested to promote private entrepreneurs in the field of hospitality and other tourism related activities for development of tourism in NE Region. There is a need to augment tourist infrastructure by setting up Guest Houses and Hotels in remote locations to help rural tourism pick up. Considering the potential for development and scope for employability, the resource allocation in respect of tourism sector may be suitably enhanced.
17. It may be mentioned that the State Government, against the backdrop of the huge success and popularity of the Hornbill Festival held in December every year, has decided to hold Mini Hornbill festivals in the districts, coinciding with the local festivals to boost tourism. This will enable the tourism industry to expand to all corners of the State and benefit larger sections of the population and positively contribute towards the overall growth of the economy.
18. There is also a need to introduce tourism circuits that interconnects the northeastern region so that we tap into each other's strength and offer the tourist experiences that are not only unique but also wider in scope with a larger variety of options.
19. I request the NEC/ DoNER for establishment of a University for Tourism & Service Industry that will cover all aspects of the tourism and service industry like hotel management, civil aviation, tourism management, etc.

## **SPORTS & YOUTH RESOURCES**

20. It is a foregone conclusion that there is enormous and vast potential in the field of sports & games amongst the youth of the region. Even as we speak, sports persons from the region are bringing laurels to the country in various international events and competitions. I am happy to announce that we have laid the Foundation Stone of the Dr. T. Ao Regional Football Academy in memory of India's first Olympic Football Captain, at Dimapur, Nagaland on 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 under the Department of Youth Resources and Sports. On behalf of the people of Nagaland, I express heartfelt gratitude to the NEC for the initial grant of Rs. 13 crores and pray that the Council will provide complete funding for the project. On these lines, I would further suggest that the NEC includes funding of sports infrastructure in order to tap into the potentials of our youth not only to provide opportunities but also to bring them into the mainstream.

21. In the backdrop of political instability and insurgency movements, it is through sports and games that the youth of the region are able to have a sense of belonging to the country and contribute towards the nation building process. Therefore, it is imperative that the Centre must fund projects for sports infrastructure and game development initiatives. Also, the policy makers of the sports ministry may consider the fact that sports disciplines that are of potential to the mainland population may not be of potential scope in the region. Therefore, we have to focus on our strengths of sports disciplines that need good hand-eye coordination, have weight categories like combat sports, etc. Even schemes and funds for game development activities at the grass root level needs to be framed and formulated as per the requirements and sensitivities of the region.

### **AGRICULTURE & ALLIED SECTORS**

22. The Nagaland Vision 2030 envisages to transform subsistence agriculture being practiced today by ushering in commercialization of Agriculture. It envisions inclusive development covering all districts of the State with generation of employment opportunities for all sections of the society.

23. Along with restructuring the flow of development funds presently available under the State budget for agriculture, special funds will be needed to set up the Integrated Intensive Inclusive Agricultural Clusters (IIIACs). The IIIACs will encourage optimization of traditional agricultural crops utilizing technical inputs and integrating with departmental activities. Clusters have been tried across the world. Examples include cut-flower clusters in Kenya, grape clusters in Maharashtra, and livestock clusters in China.

24. The State has a comparative advantage for the development and promotion of organic cultivation. However it is observed that producers face hurdles in obtaining certification for which this forum must provide the technical expertise as well as sufficient hand holding to get products certified as organic.

25. The development of bamboo in the State can be taken up from two perspectives; as a resource and as an enterprise. Nagaland has 5% of the total growing stock of bamboo of India with an annual yield assessed at 8.35 lakh metric tonnes worth over Rs. 200 crores. This fast regenerating plant has great economic potential and can be made a commercial product through value addition and appropriate technology intervention. The Paper Mill at Tuli alone can consume 3.0 lakh metric tonnes of green bamboo provided its revival takes place. Another option is to use Bamboo for production of Methanol that can be mixed with petroleum to save costs.

## SKILL DEVELOPMENT

26. The State is advantageously placed in terms of availability of human resource with an educated English speaking young population. However, it is also necessary for these youths to be imparted with the right skills in conjunction with the ground realities of the region so that they become employable or gainfully self-employed.
27. It is in this context that the decision taken by the 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Committee in its meeting held on 6/10/2015 in New Delhi for establishment of Regional Institutes assumes significance. The consensus arrived at in the meeting was for the setting up of 14 Regional Institutes in North Eastern Region. This decision needs to be acted upon giving priority to those States which do not have institutes that are Regional in character while at the same time establishing these Regional Institutes spread across the region.
28. I request the NEC to establish the following 3 (three) Regional Institutes in Nagaland:
- (iv) Regional Institute of Architecture & Planning
  - (v) Institute of Music, Art & Culture
  - (vi) North East Institute of Skill Development

### Recommendations of EFC for continuation of NEC Schemes till 2020

29. The decision of the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) to put on hold all the new projects sanctioned from April 2017 onwards may not prove beneficial in the long run since the NE States, particularly Nagaland, with meager resources look to the NEC and DoNER to come to supplement our resources to implement important projects and programmes. The projects sanctioned during 2017-18 were meticulously selected by the State as priority and were also retained and sanctioned by NEC after thorough scrutiny. The funds released by NEC for these projects have been spent and Utilization Certificate submitted to NEC and works for some projects already started. If the projects are to be put on hold, it will eventually lead to cost escalation which is not admissible under NEC guidelines. Further, it may attract litigation from various quarters.
30. Taking this opportunity, I want to highlight some issues of concern, which are common to almost all the NE States.
- c. **Conversion of present scheme of funding for NE Region from 90:10% to full 100%:** On the recommendation of the Sub Group of Chief Ministers on rationalization of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), all CSS for the north east region states has been converted to 90:10%. We are happy that the need of the region have been met partially making the NESIDS to full 100% funding. We are grateful to Government of



India for recognizing the stressed revenue situations common to almost all the North Eastern States. In such a financial environment it has become very difficult to plan our developmental interventions with meager fund after allocating salaries & pension requirements of our States. Against such a background, to meet the State Share of 10% of the Central Share to various CSS becomes an uphill task. The ultimate casualty is poor implementation of CSS, on account of our inability to release the State Share. We urge NEC to recommend making all CSS fully 100% from the current financial year 2018-19 for the northeastern States for a period to be decided by Government of India.

- d. **Inclusion of all the North Eastern States having predominant tribal population for funding under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP):** Presently some NE States having predominant tribal population are outside the purview as the fund provided under TSP are in proportion to the ST population of each State. The other NE states having almost 100% are left out. The objective of the TSP is to bridge the gap between the Scheduled Tribe (ST) population and others by accelerating the development of STs by securing to them through :
- vi. Human Resource development by enhancing access to education & health services.
  - vii. Enhancing quality of life by providing basic amenities etc.
  - viii. Reduction in poverty & unemployment.
  - ix. Enhance capacities to avail opportunities at par with other areas; and
  - x. Protection against exploitation & oppression.

The objectives set out holds good for the other left out States as they are also tribals who suffer similar deprivations. We urge the NEC to make a recommendation to the NITI Aayog to expand and amend the existing guidelines to include all the NE States (presently 22 States & 2 UTs reportedly eligible).

31. I also suggest that NEC Plenary be held in all the NE States on a rotational basis to let every State avail the opportunity to host the meeting.
32. Therefore, I take this opportunity to appeal before this august Council to discuss these matters seriously and work out an Action plan for the North Eastern States to be an active partner in building a New India.

Thank You.



**Speech of  
Shri Biplab Kumar Deb  
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura  
at the  
67<sup>th</sup> NEC Meeting**

**Shillong  
9 -10 July, 2018**

1. Hon'ble Chairman, North Eastern Council (NEC), Shri Rajnath ji;  
Hon'ble Vice Chairman, NEC, Dr. Jitendra Singh ji;  
Hon'ble Governors and Chief Ministers of North Eastern States;  
Other Distinguished Members of the Council;  
Ladies and Gentlemen;

It is indeed a moment of great honour for me to be present here in the 67<sup>th</sup> NEC Meeting as a representative of the 37 lakh people of the state of Tripura.

By abiding by the philosophy of '**cooperative federalism**' Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi ji has placed extensive focus on improving the coordination between the Central and State Governments as well as among the State Governments in the country. The newly reconstituted NEC is yet another step in that direction.

I welcome Union Home Minister, Shri Rajnath Singh ji who shall now be the Chairman of the NEC. His innate wisdom and guidance shall help us in developing the region in a more cohesive manner.

I am extremely thankful to Union Home Minister (I/C), Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region (DoNER), Dr. Jitendra Singh ji who has been a guiding light for the progress and prosperity of the North East since last four years. In his role as the Vice Chairman of the Council, he shall continue to impart his invaluable support for the holistic growth of the region.

2. At the outset, on behalf of people of Tripura, I express my sincere gratitude to Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh ji and my fellow Chief Minister from Mizoram, Shri Lal Thanhawla ji for ensuring the signing of the Repatriation Agreement of the Bru Migrants from Tripura back to their homeland. This is a perfect illustration of cordial Centre-State relations ensuring peace and prosperity for the people of India.

3. Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi ji has envisioned the North Eastern states as the '**Asthalaxmi-Eight forms of Goddess of Wealth**' of India. During the last four years, Central Government has undertaken comprehensive measures to give an impetus to the development of North East India. In order to attain this vision, the State Government is making relentless efforts to march ahead on the path of development. My Government is ensuring that progress and development reach each and every section of the society, each and every corner of the State. We are committed to taking the benefits of development till the last person in the society which shows our resolve towards fulfilling Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya ji's philosophy of '**Antyodaya**'.

4. During the last four months, the State Government of Tripura has undertaken several path-breaking measures with a view to bringing about a sea change in the socio-

economic scenario of the state. A transparent recruitment policy, presenting a zero-deficit, growth-oriented budget, impetus to horticulture sector, reservation for women in police forces, measures for ensuring crop-protection and income enhancement for farmers, enhancing the financial assistance imparted to citizens of all sections of the society in the form of scholarships, compensations, pensions etc., expanding the scope of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) through the effective usage of Jan-Dhan, Aadhaar, Mobile (JAM) Trinity, impetus to Digital Tripura and taking steps for early implementation of the recommendations of the 7<sup>th</sup> Pay Commission are among the various measures taken during the first four months of our Government for **Transforming Tripura**.

5. Earlier years of obstructive opportunism have now made way for cooperative federalism in Tripura. The State Government is ensuring **effective and efficient implementation of various Central Government schemes** with wholehearted support from the Central Government. The state is taking large strides in achieving its targets under various schemes and programmes such as the Swachha Bharat Mission, Pradhan Mantri (PM) Fasal Bimal Yojana, PM Awas Yojana, PM Mudra Yojana, PM Saubhagya Yojana, National Bamboo Mission among others. It is worth noting that in the interests of the Nari Shakti of Tripura, my Government had set the target of delivering 1 lakh LPG connections under the PM Ujjwala Yojana within the first 100 days and we were able to achieve the same before the completion of this period.

6. With regards to the agenda of the meeting, I would humbly like to put forward a few suggestions and recommendations:

**(i) Annual Plan 2018-19**

A landmark decision has been taken by the Central Government for the introduction North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) from 2017-18 with 100% funding from the Central Government to fill up the gaps in the creation of infrastructure in specified sectors till March 2020.

Various State Governments in the North East are often not able to fully utilize the benefits under Central Government schemes due to the financial constraint with regards to inability to spend the mandated 10% portion under the 90:10 funded Central Government schemes.

It will be extremely helpful if the NEC can act as a catalyst by funding the 10% portion for various projects and Schemes for State Governments. In this manner, State Governments will be able to ensure effective implementation of Central Government programs in North-East India.

**(ii) Recommendation of the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) for the continuation of NEC schemes till 2020 and Revised NEC Guideline in view of the recommendation of EFC**

Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) has recommended Rs. 4500 crores which include Rs. 1000 crores for the projects under North East Sector Road Development Scheme (NESRDS) and Rs. 640 crores for Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) projects. EFC has also asked for the liquidation of NEC liabilities of Rs. 2357 crores on a priority basis.

Liabilities for the ongoing projects of Tripura being the lowest among the North Eastern States, I would request **State Specific Projects for Tripura (retained by NEC) may be sanctioned early** for furthering growth prospects in the state.

### (iii) Road Connectivity in the North-East Region

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji has enunciated the **HIRA Model (Highways, i-ways, Railways and Airports)** for development of Tripura. Hon'ble PM has time and again reiterated the vision for '**Transformation by Transportation**' of North East India.

The importance of a world-class road network is most crucial for a land-locked state like Tripura. Under the leadership of Union Minister, Shri Nitin Gadkari, comprehensive efforts have been undertaken for the development of National Highways in Tripura. Hon'ble President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind ji recently inaugurated one such Highway (NH-08) in Tripura last month.

Due to the strategic location of Tripura with regards to its proximity to Bangladesh, various connectivity projects are being currently undertaken in Tripura and I believe the same must also be the case with various North Eastern states sharing their borders with various neighbouring countries.

On the lines of Pragati review mechanism adopted by PM Shri Narendra Modi ji, Government of Tripura has initiated **Assuring Good & Responsive Governance and Timely Implementation (AGRGTI)** review mechanism where I undertake periodic reviews of various ongoing projects in the state.

The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) can explore the possibility of setting up a review mechanism at the NEC level. The officials from Indian Embassies in these countries can also be involved to ensure timely implementation of these projects.

Currently, **Tripura** lies at the 'tail-end' of the North Eastern region but these connectivity projects with Bangladesh can bring it right in the front, making it a **new Gateway for the North-East**.

**Tripura can become a transportation hub** for transporting various goods available in Bangladesh at much lower rates for the benefit of the entire North-Eastern region. This shall not only ensure enhanced trade and commerce between the two countries but also provide impetus to the **Neighbouring First** policy of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji.

**(iv) Transformation of 14 Aspirational Districts in NER**

Dhalai District of Tripura has been identified under 'Transformation of Aspirational Districts' programme. The Central Government is taking proactive measures to track the progress in these Aspirational Districts including the appointment of Prabhari Officers for each of these districts and creation of a real-time dashboard among others.

State Government, especially in the North Eastern States can play a proactive contributory role in ensuring effective development of these districts by ensuring coordination with various Departments of the State Governments. **A coordination mechanism in this regard may be developed for involving the State Government** for holistic development of Aspiration Districts.

**(v) 10% Gross Budgetary Support**

All Central Ministries and Departments should consider sharing their targets and Vision for the NE Region and spell out modalities for spending the stipulated 10% of their budget for the NER.

It is necessary that there is **information symmetry** with regards to the status of funds being utilized by various Central Ministries and Departments for the North East Region.

NEC may utilize its available expertise to create a Status Reporting Framework (an illustrative dashboard) by collecting necessary information on a timely basis from various Ministries with regards to the status of expenditure incurred by them. This shall help the public representatives from taking up these issues with respective Ministries in the Central Government in order to ensure the effective utilization of funds.

**(vi) Proposed North Eastern Water Management Agency**

I am very happy to inform that **Tripura has emerged as the Best Performer** in the 'North-Eastern & Himalaya States' category as per the NITI Aayog's **Composite Water Management Index (CWMI) Report** issued last month.

Due to the geo-strategic significance attached to this region, it is very critical for the North-Eastern states to have a **holistic and reliable data bank for its rivers**. This Agency can play a crucial role in ensuring the availability of this data.

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi ji has taken various measures to enhance the **East of Living** for citizens in the country. Availability of clean drinking water is imperative for living a good quality life. This Agency can play an instrumental role in developing **techniques to ensure the availability of clean drinking water to citizens** across

North-East India thereby creating best practices which can be further emulated in other parts of the country.

(vii) Doubling Farmer's Income by 2022

Government of Tripura is committed to attaining Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of Doubling Farmer's income by the year 2022. I **welcome the landmark decision** taken by the Union Cabinet this week to **raise the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs)** of various crops to ensure 50% of returns to the farmers over costs for their produce.

We have a **four-pronged strategy** to achieve this goal in line with the vision of the Central Government.

- **Reducing input costs** – Through establishing **Krishak Bandhu Kendras in each sub-division**, dissemination of farming equipment and ensuring the use of scientific techniques for farming, we aim to reduce the input costs for our farmers.
- **Ensure minimal losses for farmers** – Our Government has decided to bear the cost of premium for providing crop **insurance all the farmers who are in High-Risk Zone** (covering a total of 21.5 thousand hectare area in the state). Moreover, we are also promoting means to ensure 100% penetration of PM Fasal Bima Yojana among small and marginal farmers to minimize their losses.
- **Ensure proper prices for the produce** – The State Budget announced that our Government will come out with **Horticulture Vision** document. We have taken numerous measures for the promotion of pineapple cultivation including the export of pineapples across the world. The effects are for all to see how the prices of our **Queen Pineapple**, the recently declared State Fruit are yielding more than **200% returns for our farmers**. Steps are being taken to ensure that our farmers are connected with the **e-NAM network**.
- **Create more avenues for income generation** – Our Government is taking holistic measures to promote **bamboo plantation** in the state. Despite the immense potential, rubber cultivation has not yet achieved its optimum potential in the state due to various restrictions, especially in the Non-Forest Areas. In line with the steps taken by Centre and various State Governments, we shall ensure parity in rules for effectively increasing the income of the farmers. We are also taking active steps to promote animal husbandry, bee-keeping and sericulture activities to boost the incomes of the farmers.

NEC can play an instrumental role in doubling the farmers' income by becoming a **Nodal Centre for sharing of Best Practices of Farming** among the North Eastern States. NEC can identify these best practices and can arrange for regular visits of farmers to each of these states to ensure that best practices are shared across the North Eastern states.

I see how my dear friend Conrad Sangma is promoting Jackfruit in Meghalaya; Pema Khandu ji's Arunachal Pradesh is promoting its Kiwi fruits; Assam is famous for its tea the world over. After years of indifference, even Tripura farmers are now getting proactive Government support for cultivation and marketing of pineapples, tea, bamboo etc. Can NEC become a **Centre for Marketing of North-Eastern Agricultural Products** across the world? This shall not only lead to the pooling of resources and expertise but can also ensure that we all move together to ensure prosperity for our **Annadatas**.

**(vii) Setting up Iconic Institute – Recommendations of the NEC Executive Committee**

After a long delay, finally the Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) finally started its academic session from the current year (2018-19) in Tripura.

Setting up of new Iconic Institutes can take a lot of time but NEC can play a very important role by ensuring that students from the North-East are inspired to excel and be a part of Iconic Institutes across the country.

- Can NEC organize regular tours of students from all the North-Eastern states to visit the best IIM, IIT campuses across the country?
- Can my dear-colleagues from Assam and Meghalaya allow NEC to organize a one-week or a one-month program for best students from entire North-East region to come and study at IIM and IIT campuses in their states?

On lines of students from Jammu and Kashmir visiting various parts of India, our NE states' students will be immensely benefited these measures. If these small but impactful measures are undertaken, we shall have several '**Iconic Students**' from each of the states committed to working for the development of the North East region.

**(ix) Completing Long Pending Projects in the NEC**

I have already covered this subject in my inputs for road projects and Aspirational Districts' points. To add to the same, NEC can play a pivotal role by facilitating **Dedicated Ministry Discussions for public representatives of the North-East region**. NEC can organize monthly meetings where Agriculture, Industry, IT ministers from across the NE States can meet and discuss issues which can be raised with the Union Ministers of the same Departments via video conferencing or by meeting them in person. This can lead to imbibing the principles of cooperative federalism in a more cohesive manner.

**(x) Poshan Abhiyaan**

Government of Tripura is committed to ensuring effective implementation of the programmes undertaken under the Poshan Abhiyaan of Government of India for improved maternal and child health in the state.



Dhalai District of Tripura was selected for implementation of National Nutrition Mission during 2017-18 and during 2018-19 it has been extended to West Tripura, Sepahijala and Khowai District. Soon the programme will be extended to all Districts of Tripura.

**(xi) Ayushman Bharat**

Central Government has announced a landmark initiative – Ayushman Bharat for imparting health insurance to cover a substantial number of citizens in the country.

Government of Tripura is committed to ensuring its effective implementation for delivering insurance coverage **to over 5.2 lakh families (over 71% of the state's population)** under this program.

**(xii) NEC as a Council for Conflict Resolution**

NER Vision 2020 was prepared ten years ago. Now, NEC may evaluate the plan & programme decided in this Vision Document and how much progress has been achieved with regards to the same.

In alignment with the Vision Document of NITI Aayog, NEC may prepare the **Vision Document for North East India to achieve the targets under New India by 2022** vision of the Central Government.

7. Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi ji has envisioned building a New India by the year 2022. This year 2022 assumes a lot of significance for the state of Tripura. **2022 shall mark the completion of 50 years – the golden anniversary of the state formation of our beloved Tripura which coincides with the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our nation's independence.** Our vision for **Transforming Tripura aims to build a Swarnim Tripura.**

I am confident that the deliberations and the decisions of this NEC meeting would go a long way in ensuring the comprehensive development of North East India and in making the region, the '**Asthalaxmi of India**'.

Thank you, Jai Hind.

**POWER POINT PRESENTATIONS BY CENTRAL  
MINISTRIES**

# STRATEGY FOR SEQUESTERING ADDITIONAL 2.5 TO 3 BT OF CO<sub>2</sub> IN FORESTS BY 2030

Siddhanta Das, IFS  
Director General of Forests  
Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change  
Government of India

## CARBON STOCK IN FOREST

- Estimated carbon stock in forests: 7 BT = 25.66 BT of CO<sub>2</sub>
- Avg. annual increment: 35 MT of Carbon = 128.33 MT of CO<sub>2</sub>
- Country's commitment: Additional 2.5 to 3.0 BT of CO<sub>2</sub> by 2030
- Addition of CO<sub>2</sub> at present rate: 1.92 BT of CO<sub>2</sub> by 2030
- Short fall in target: 0.6 to 1.1 BT of CO<sub>2</sub>

## STRATEGY FOR MEETING THE SHORTFALL

### ➤ Landscape based Catchment Treatment

*In dense Natural Forests about 65% carbon is stored in soil. Qualitative improvement of existing forests would lead to more Carbon stock*

### ➤ Extending Tree Cover outside Forests

*Quantitative increase in tree cover for direct sequestration of Carbon*

## RIVERS ARE SEASONAL & MUDDY

- Catchments are origin of all the rivers
- Precipitation received by the catchments
  - take the path of least resistance and rush to the rivers
  - carry top-soil from the catchment
- As a result rivers
  - are flooded during peak season
  - become dry for most of the time
  - become muddy



## RETAIN PRECIPITATION IN CATCHMENT

- Slow down the streams
- Make water flow under soil
- Retain water in catchment for a longer period
- Virtually make water trickle to rivers
  - Biological interventions
  - Mechanical interventions

*The ultimate goal is to make the Rivers Perennial and Clean...*

## SOLUTION FOR FORESTRY ISSUES

- Dissipation of energy of streams would result in Retention of moisture in the Catchment for a longer period which in turn would facilitate:
  - i. Reduction of Soil erosion
  - ii. Augmentation of Natural Regeneration
  - iii. Reduction of vulnerability to forest fire
  - iv. Reduction of Man-Animal Conflicts
  - v. Recharging of Ground water

*All the above would result in accelerated Carbon Sequestration and Water Security*

## CATP PREPARED BY FRI

*Forest Research Institute (FRI) Dehradun has prepared comprehensive CATP for River Ganga:*



Covers Catchment in  
Uttarakhand



River-scape in UP, Bihar,  
Jharkhand and West  
Bengal



Project Cost:  
Rs.2300 crore



Implementation period:  
5 years



Treatment Proposed:  
Landscape based



Work is in Progress  
(MoEFCC has assured  
funds out of CAMPA)

## CATP FOR ALL MAJOR RIVER SYSTEMS

CATP for all the Catchments:

- Anticipated Project Cost: Rs.30 to 50 thousand crore
- Period of implementation: 10 years
- Possible source of funding:
  - ✓ MoWR
  - ✓ MoEFCC
  - ✓ CAMPA
  - ✓ MGNREGA
  - ✓ State Govts
  - ✓ Corporate funding
  - ✓ External funding agencies

## TREE OUTSIDE FORESTS



National Forest Policy  
Envisages 33% of area  
under Forest Cover



Currently about 24%  
area has green cover



May not be possible to  
extend area of  
conventional forests



Most feasible option:  
Trees outside Forests

## WHY GROW TREE ?

- Wood is the only Carbon Neutral Renewable Resource.  
Therefore we should
  - Grow more wood
  - Use more wood
- Net annual import of wood & wood-product is Rs.42,000cr
- Large tracts of waste and scrub lands available
- Agro & Farm-Forestry can enhance Farmers' income
- Govt has removed restrictions on transport of Bamboo grown outside forests
- Good idea to remove restrictions transport of farm grown timber



**THANK YOU**

Questions and Suggestions: [dgfindia@nic.in](mailto:dgfindia@nic.in)

Annexure -





## MEETING OF NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL

A PRESENTATION ON

### DOUBLING FARMERS' INCOME

9<sup>th</sup> JULY 2018

By:

Dr. Devesh Chaturvedi, Joint Secretary  
Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers'  
Welfare

### Structure

- Generic Strategies for Doubling Farmers Income
- Initiatives already taken and expectations from States
- Strategies specific to North Eastern States

## Generic Strategies

3

**“I wish to double the income of farmers by 2022 when India will celebrate 75 years of its Independence”**

**-Prime Minister  
while addressing farmers rally  
at Bareilly (Feb 28, 2016)**

**“While the farmers of our nation have ensured food security for us, we as a nation have to ensure income security to our farmers.”**

**-Prime Minister  
while interacting with farmers on June 20,2018**

4

## Inter-ministerial Committee on Doubling Farmers' Income - DFI Committee

- Constituted by Government on 13-April-2017
- ✓ To determine the needed growth rate to double the income of farmers/agricultural labourers by the year 2022-23
- ✓ To consider and recommend strategies and Institutional mechanism to be adopted to accomplish this
- Consultation with farmers, farmers' associations, private-public bodies scientists, economists, academics, trade and professional associations, policy makers, etc.
- Draft 13 volumes on released on official website for comments
- Finalization of 14<sup>th</sup> volume of recommendations in progress

3

## Approach and Strategy

- Transition agriculture into agri-business
  - $[\text{Gross output} \times \text{Remunerative returns}] - \text{Cost of cultivation (Production)} = \text{Net Returns}$
  - Focus on all three 3 variables
    - Gross Output: Productivity/Production/reducing losses
    - Remunerative Returns: Better prices through market reforms/Post Harvest Technologies
    - Cost of Cultivation: reducing cost through optimal use of inputs
- Adopting a sustainable production system.

6

## Disparities in Agriculture and Non-agriculture Income

Year	Farm income per cultivator (Rs) F	Wage earning per agricultural labourer (Rs) L	Income per non-agriculture worker (Rs) N	Ratio L:F	Ratio N:F
1983-84	4,286	1,467	12,786	0.34	2.98
1987-88	5,653,	2,201	18,036	0.39	3.19
1993-94	12,365	4,784	37,763	0.39	3.05
1999-00	24,188	8,938	78,565	0.37	3.25
2004-05	26,146	10,043	106,688	0.38	4.08
2011-12	78,264	32,311	246,514	0.41	3.15

✓ Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur and Sikkim had incomes more than National Average (in that order). Assam was close to national average.

✓ Tripura had income less than national average

## Growth Rate required : All India

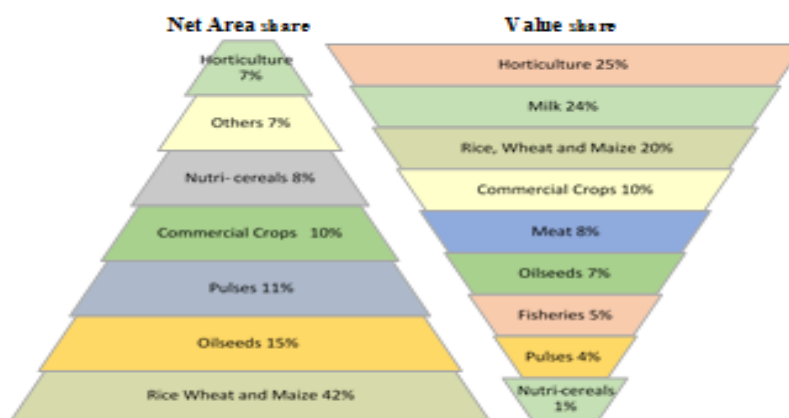
- Accelerated income growth of 10.4% required upto 2022-23
- Change in farmers' income status @ 10.4% of annual G.R.

Farmers Income (Rs)	Base Year: 2015-16 At 2015-16 Prices			Terminal Year: 2022-23 At 2015-16 Prices			Terminal Year: 2022-23 At Current Prices		
	Farm	Non-Farm	Total	Farm	Non-Farm	Total	Farm	Non-Farm	Total
All India	58,246	38,457	96,703	1,16,165	76,529	1,92,694	1,63,456	1,07,922	2,71,378

## Not just foodgrains

Major produce type	Quantity
Milk	165 mill tons
Eggs	83,929 mill pcs
Fish	10.79 mill tons
Meats including Poultry	7.02 mill tons
Fibre crops	7.52 mill tons
Oilseeds	32.1 mill tons
Pulses	22.95 mill tons
Cereals	252.73 mill tons
Horticulture	300.64 mill tons
Sugar cane	306.72 mill tons

## Area and Value Pyramid



- Crop geometry important for farmers to capture more value from available area.
- Release surplus land under cereals for high value commodities.
- Diversify and align production system to take advantage of demand.

10

## Sources of Income Growth - Seven

1. Improvement in **productivity**
2. Improvement in **livestock productivity**
3. **Resource use efficiency** or savings in cost of production
4. Increase in **cropping intensity**
5. **Diversification** towards high value products
6. Improvement in **real prices** received by farmers
7. Shift from **farm to non-farm occupations**

11

### Investments Required Additional & Cumulative

- DFI requires annual farm Income Growth rate of 10.4%.

Public and Private Investments (Rs. billion) and required annual rate of growth

	Private Investment in Agriculture			Public Investment 'for' Agriculture		
	2015-16 (Base Year)	2016-17 to 2022-23 (additional in 7 years)	Total (base year + additional)	2015-16 (Base Year)	2016-17 to 2022-23 (additional in 7 years)	Total (base year + additional)
At 2015-16 price	Rs. 610 (Rs. 61,000 crore)	Rs. 780 (78,424 crore)	Rs. 1394 (1,39,424 crore)	Rs. 1171 (Rs. 1,17,000 crore)	Rs. 2300 (2,29,904 crore)	Rs. 3471 (3,47,004 crore)
Required annual rate of growth	9.15% (2002 to 2012)	12.5%	—	12.45% (2000 to 2013)	16.8%	—

12

## Policy level Actions already taken- expectations from States

13

### Major initiatives

1. Institutional Framework Mechanism:
  - ✓ Inter-ministerial/ departmental committees at State/District levels.
  - ✓ To achieve coordination and convergence.
  
2. National Conference on Agriculture held in 21-22 February,2018
  - ✓ Recommendations sent to States with request to organize State level Conferences to finalize the strategies
  - ✓ Arunachal Pradesh has Organized the Conference – Other States may also consider such events

14

## Major initiatives

3. Market Reforms: A model Agriculture Produce and Livestock Marketing (**Promotion & Facilitation**) Act, 2017 has been shared with all States and UTs for adoption

S.No.	Area of Reforms	Name of the States/UTs, which have adopted reforms
1.	Establishment of private market	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura
2.	Direct wholesale purchase of agricultural produce from agriculturists (Direct marketing)	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura
3.	Establishment of farmer- consumer market in private sector (Direct sale by the producer to the consumer in retail)	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura
4.	Contract Farming	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura
5.	Provision for e-trading.	Sikkim, Mizoram
6.	Single point levy of market fee across the State/UT	Nagaland, Sikkim, Mizoram
7.	Unified single trading license for State/UT	Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim
8.	De-regulation of marketing of fruits and vegetables	Assam, Nagaland

## Major initiatives

4. Market Reforms:
- ✓ eNAM: a national web based online trading platform designed to transform agri-marketing for the benefit of the farmers Contract farming
  - ✓ By March,2018, 585 markets covered- none in NE States
  - ✓ Following States may carry out/ partial three pre-requisite reforms in their APMC Act for integrating their mandis with e-NAM
    - Arunachal Pradesh
    - Assam
    - Meghalaya
    - Nagaland
    - Tripura
  - ✓ Manipur with **no APMC Act**, needs to make institutional arrangement by issuing an administrative orders for operationalising eNAM
  - ✓ Mizoram and Sikkim have done 03 mandatory reforms under e-NAM but **not sent the proposals** for integration of their mandis with e-NAM.

16



## Major initiatives

### 5. GrAMS: Upgradation of 22,000 Grameen Agri Markets

- ✓ To be upgraded using MNREGA funds
- ✓ linked to eNAM
- ✓ States may develop and upgrade the facilities of 2766 Rural haats through MNREGA/PMGSY funds
- ✓ States may consider de-regulating Gramin haats from State APMC Act.
- ✓ States may consider adopting appropriate guidelines for managing and operating the GrAMs.

17

## Major initiatives

### 7. MSP to be 1.5 times cost of production:

- ✓ MSP for Kharif Crop declared
- ✓ Substantial increase in MSP of Paddy, Maize, Millets, Pulses and Oilseeds
- ✓ NE States may consider procurement of paddy locally at MSP rates to cater to their local demands.

19

## Major initiatives

### 8. Per Drop More Crop:

- ✓ A dedicated micro-irrigation fund with initial corpus of Rs.5000 crores in NABARD.
- ✓ Expansion of micro-drip irrigation –protective cultivation.

### 9. Land Lease Policies:

- ✓ A draft Model Land Leasing Law shared by NITI Aayog with States
- ✓ Its adoption will recognize the right of cultivator and help accessing credit, crop insurance and other inputs to improve productivity.

20

## Major initiatives

### 10. Crop Insurance through Pradhan Mantri Fasal Beema Yojana (status for 2017-18)

State	Farmers covered	Area covered (Ha)	Premium paid (Rs lakhs)	Claims (Rs lakhs)	Farmers benefitted	% cropped area covered
Assam	55,756	41,560	2715	1010	0	0.48
Manipur (2016-17)	8,366	9,120	359	127	8358	3.00
Meghalaya	146	146	7	0	0	0.04
Sikkim	794	194	0	0	0	0.14
Tripura	10259	2595	59	10	1	1.00

- ✓ States need to take more efforts to popularise the scheme
- ✓ Banks to be more pro-active for higher coverage
- ✓ State share of premium to be deposited in time

21

## Specific Strategies for North East States

22

### North East Region – Agriculture

- NER covers **7.9%** of country's total **geographical area**, 3.8% population - produces **only 1.5 %** of country's **total food grain**.
- NER produces **5% of country's horticulture**, however substantial **surplus(i.e 31-64%) is wasted (estimated losses upto 35%)**.
- **Community land holding** and **small land holdings** require special policies for flow of credit and innovations in traditional agricultural practices.
- Challenges related to flash floods /natural disasters

## Farmscape – North East

- ↑ Higher literacy levels
- ↓ Higher Wage rates, low Availability
- ↑ Higher Technology awareness levels
- ↓ Lower Connectivity with road/rail heads
- ↑ Climatic range suitable for multiple cultivars
- ↓ Low penetration of any organised Horticulture
- ↑ Access to sub-continental consumption markets
- ↑ North Eastern Region offers a **Green Field landscape** for **developing Modern Professional Horticulture Practises.**

7/17/2018

24

## Adoption of Professional Horticulture

- On-site implementation
  - Polyhouses (natural and mechanically ventilated)
  - Poly tunnels, Mist Houses, Hydroponics, Aeroponics
  - Computerised micro irrigation/fertigation
  - Landscaping, Drip irrigation for outdoor crops
  - Water harvesting from greenhouses & terracing
- Ropeways to Roadways
  - Designed for India
- Pack-house integration
  - Mini processing units
  - Waste management
- Market connectivity
  - e-Commerce fulfilment
  - Bulk shipments (air, road, rail, water way)

### Modern Horticulture

Intense cultivation and market linkage – technology, supply chain, marketing management

7/17/2018

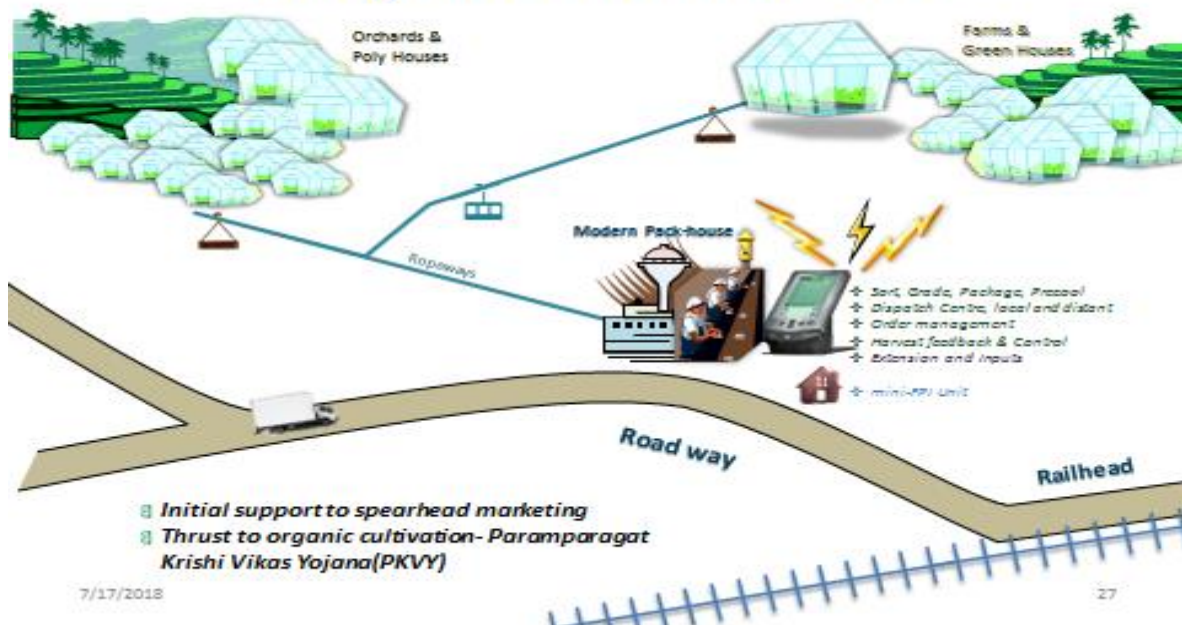
25

## Recommendations (PHM)

- Target niche markets for specialized crops as well as volume business in off season period.
- Pack-house at road head as nerve center
  - Handles output and delivers inputs
  - Linked to farms with ropeways
  - SME sized processing unit at each packhouse
  - Each packhouse to service closest rail head with reefer trucks
- DONER/NEDFI to facilitate bank credit and DPR preparations / appraisals.
- FPOs and farmer groups to be promoted for infrastructure creation and market link

**Recommended (NER)**  
 Build 1500 pack-houses  
 Link 3000 reefer trucks  
 1-2 container rail terminals  
 Air-freight for perishables

## Integrated Horticulture!



## Credit linkage

- NER has lowest share in Credit vs other geographical areas.

NABARD

Region in country Rs Crores	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
	Disb.	% Share	Disb.	% Share	Target	% Share
Northern	202478.88	23.95	220275.38	25.10	214098.00	23.79
<b>North Eastern</b>	<b>4452.74</b>	<b>0.53</b>	<b>5769.81</b>	<b>0.66</b>	<b>8737.00</b>	<b>0.97</b>
Eastern	80013.02	9.47	101633.10	11.58	112783.00	12.53
Central	133118.41	15.75	104245.28	11.88	170250.00	18.92
Western	106981.20	12.66	107943.83	12.30	118702.00	13.19
Southern	318283.98	37.65	337659.64	38.48	275430.00	30.60
<b>Total</b>	<b>845328.2</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>877527.0</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>900000.0</b>	<b>100</b>

- Crop Loan was Rs 1551 crores, term loans of Rs 4218 crores in 2015-16.
- Challenges relate to inadequate banking infrastructure and recovery climate

## Recommendation (Bank Credit)

- Increase KCC issuance to farmers (only 37% farmers with KCC).
- Enhance penetration of banking services for greater outreach.
- Collateral against community land holding to be endorsed and/or joint liability facilitated by DONER/NEC.
- DONER to set up Venture Capital fund to promote integrated projects in the North Eastern Region.

## Secondary Agriculture Linked Activities

- Secondary agriculture allows for vertical extension of land use by utilising resources for added income options.
- Types of land linked activities
  - Bee keeping
  - Mushroom cultivation
  - Compost making (PKVY)
  - Agro-forestry (e.g Bamboo based)
  - Agri/Rural Tourism
  - Sericulture

30

## Cold-chain Infrastructure

Type of Infrastructure	Infrastructure Requirement	Infrastructure Created	All India Gap	% share Shortfall
Integrated Pack-house	70,080 nos.	249 nos.	69,831 nos.	99.6
Reefer Transport	61,826 nos.	< 10,000 nos.	52,826 nos.	85
Cold Storage (Bulk)	341,64,411 MT	318,23,700 MT	32,76,962 MT	10
Cold Storage (Hub)	9,36,251 MT			
Ripening Units	9,131 nos.	812 nos.	8,319 nos.	91

- MIDH and SAMPADA schemes rationalised to target and bridge the shortfall
- Alignment amongst throughput capacity of components is critical to improve capital use efficiency

31

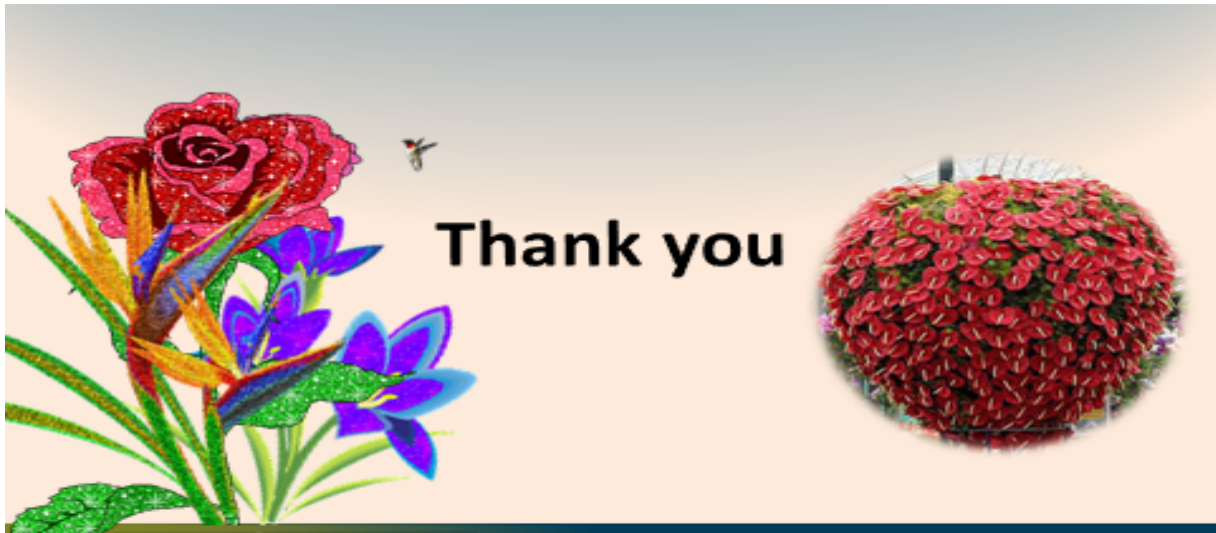
## Number of Cold Storages and Capacity (in '000 metric tonnes) in India

States/UTs	2014		2015		2016	
	Number	Capacity	Number	Capacity	Number	Capacity
Assam	34	120	35	126	35	153
Arunachal Pradesh	2	5	2	5	1	5
Manipur	1	2	1	2	1	3
Meghalaya	4	8	4	8	4	8
Mizoram	3	4	3	4	3	4
Nagaland	2	6	2	6	2	6
Sikkim	2	2	3	2	2	2
Tripura	13	39	14	45	14	45

## Investments 'in' & 'for' Agriculture

- Positive correlation between investments in agriculture and agricultural growth
- Increase public investments 'for' agriculture
  - Rural roads, rural electricity, irrigation
- Private investments by farmers growing, but not by corporate sector – policy support needed
- Current growth rate/annum of investments observed around 10%





All Data Source: Draft Report of the Inter-Ministerial  
Committee on Doubling Farmers Income, Volume I and II  
Available at [www.agricoop.gov.in](http://www.agricoop.gov.in)

34

**Government of India  
Ministry of Development of North Eastern  
Region**

**Presentation on North Eastern  
Water Management Authority  
(NEWMA)**

**July 10, 2018  
67<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session of NEC, Shillong**

**Background**

As per directions of Prime Minister, a High Level Committee (HLC) was constituted for the proper management of water resources in the North Eastern Region under the chairmanship of Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog.

## Background (Contd...)

- In the first meeting of HLC held on November 15, 2017, decision to recommend establishment of North Eastern Water Management Authority (NEWMA), was taken.
- NEWMA will be a basin management entity focused on the interest of a basin as a whole, rather than interests of a particular Sector or State.

## Need for NEWMA

- Economic development and prosperity of all States of the NER rather than merely flood control in Brahmaputra/Barak.
- Economic benefits accruing from water resources of the region can not be confined to concerned State(s) only;
- Water resources belong to entire region and all the States need to benefitted.

## **Need for NEWMA (contd...)**

- To look at the abundant water resources in the entire North Eastern Region, covering activities from power generation, irrigation, flood & erosion control, upland management, fisheries, inland waterways, tourism etc.
- Many challenges and issues in NER are institutional and can only be addressed through an effective basin management authority (BMA) like NEWMA.

## **Global Basin Management Authorities (BMAs)**

Several BMAs exist for other major river basins around the globe:-

- Mekong River Commission (MRC)
- Nile Basin Initiative (NBI)
- Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA)
- US-Canada International Joint Commission (IJC)
- Senegal River Basin Development Organization (OMVS)

## **Global Basin Management Authorities Contd....**

- Central theme for all of the BMAs is data sharing & transparency and communication.
- As a result, all BMAs have demonstrated benefits from collaboration through reduced flooding, shared hydropower benefits etc.

## **Headquarters of NEWMA**

- Given that the State of Arunachal Pradesh accounts for maximum water resources in the region, the Headquarters of NEWMA could be in Itanagar.

# NATIONAL BAMBOO MISSION IN NER

THE LEVERAGING OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



## NATIONAL BAMBOO MISSION & NER

- New NBM focused on **full value chain**
- Special focus on **NER**
- Outlay of **Rs. 1290 ( Central Share 950 Crs)** till march,2020
- **500 crs** in 2018-19
- Between **150-200 crs** for NER in 2018-19 (tentative)
- Proposals collated by DONER/NEC and endorsed to MOAFW
- **CBTC (NECBDC)** to act as coordinating/facilitating point



## ISSUES

- **Non forest plantation** critical: State Governments to encourage/facilitate
- **Local processing** important : industry department role
- **Leveraging SHGs** – for both plantation & primary processing
- **Marketing** important : should leverage high value products like bamboo shoot, candy, bamboo charcoal etc
- **Aggregator big industry** : incense sticks (large scale), fibre , construction material, bamboo engineered wood, bio-fuel – **NUMALIGARH ethanol plant- states' role critical**
- **Use of S&T interventions**

## NBM & STINER

- **STINER** : S&T Interventions in NER – initiated by DoNER with PSA and scientific bodies like CSIR, ICAR, IITs etc is now a priority sector for NEC
- **R&D and S&T** are integral part of NBM – from planting to high tech value addition
- **Ground level S&T** interventions will be critical to processing of bamboo- especially primary processing
- A Bamboo **farm gate PPU** can be set up with investment of approx. Rs 30-35 lakhs
- **Livelihood groups** can be early adapters
- **DoNER/NEC** will coordinate with CSIR and others

*THANK YOU*