

Government of India
Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
(NLCPR Division)

Minutes of the 135th meeting of NLCPR Committee held on 26.08.2015 under the Chairmanship of Dr. R. Vijaykumar, Secretary, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region in Committee Room No 243 A, Vigyan Bhawan Annexe, New Delhi.

Present

1. Shri V. B. Pathak, Joint Secretary, Ministry of DoNER
2. Ms. Jhanja Tripathy, Joint Secretary & FA, Ministry of DoNER
3. Shri S.L. Meena, Joint Secretary, Ministry of DoNER
4. Shri Jitendra Kumar, Advisor, NITI Aayog

The following officers were also present in the meeting:

1. Shri Vivek Goel, Director, CEA, Ministry of Power
2. Shri S.P. Singh, Director, Ministry of DoNER
3. Shri B.N. Prasad, Director, Ministry of DoNER
4. Shri Ravindra Choudhary, Director
5. Shri Ranbir Singh, Resident Commissioner, Government of Mizoram
6. Shri Vineet Joshi, Resident Commissioner, Government of Manipur
7. Shri Rakesh Sarwal, Pr. Resident Commissioner, Government of Tripura
8. Shri Jigmi Cleoda, Addl. Resident Commissioner, Government of Arunachal Pradesh
9. Shri Phurpa Wangyal, EE, Deptt. Of Power, Government of Arunachal Pradesh
10. Shri Alak Chakrabarti, S.E., Government of Tripura
11. Ms. Dipa Basnett, S.S., P & D Deptt., Government of Sikkim
12. Shri D.K. Pradhan, A.C.E, P & D Deptt., Government of Sikkim

The Home Secretary was represented by his Section Officer and on being asked if he felt he could adequately represent the Secretary, he expressed regrets and he was asked to leave.

The Committee deliberated on the Agenda items. The following recommendations were made by the Committee on the agenda items:

Item No. 1: Confirmation of the minutes of 134th Meeting of the NLCPR Committee held on 16.02.2015.

The Committee confirmed the minutes of 134th Meeting held on 26.07.2015.

Item No. 2: Simplified procedure for expeditious processing/execution of projects under the NLCPR scheme, after due consultations by videoconferencing with NE State Governments, in pursuance of directions given by Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs in its meeting held on 27/07/2015.

The NLCPR Committee deliberated upon the following simplified procedure for expeditious processing/execution of projects under the NLCPR scheme:-

- i) The NE States to submit Priority Lists by September of the year for the next financial year commencing from this year itself.

- ii) The normative allocation for the States will be intimated well in advance based on past years' trend after taking account of their infrastructure development indices, absorption capacity as shown in pending projects and after accommodating needs for ongoing and retained projects.
- iii) A project should be at a single location and should not be a composite of several locations as already specified in the Guidelines of NLCPR.
- iv) Priority List should be continuous and in a running format (No sector-wise, district-wise categorisation of projects should be in the Priority List).
- v) The total value of projects included in the Priority List should not exceed 1.5 times of the total normative allocation so intimated.
- vi) Projects exceeding 1.5 times of the allocation shall be summarily rejected.
- vii) The current specification in guidelines for reserving 25% of new projects for backward areas is vague and will be specified as intended for Autonomous Territorial/District Councils.
- viii) The concept paper for each project should clearly specify if the expenditure is to be incurred on creating public assets, the nature of landholding, Government control and management etc.
- ix) Chief Secretary/Planning Secretary/Departmental Secretary (when concerned) shall alone attend the meeting of the NLCPR Committee, convened for initial screening of concept papers and later for sanction of finalised DPRs of the projects included for the State. In case these officers are unable to attend the meeting, another authorised representative, who is able to take on the spot decisions, may alone attend the meeting. In case the authorised representative is unable to satisfactorily answer the queries of the Committee, the project shall be rejected as unsupported and the funds diverted to next in priority or to approved projects of other States.
- x) Once the project(s) are cleared, the States will be invariably (by default) required to submit DPRs within a period of two months. In case more time is sought by the State at the time of approval of concept, such time not exceeding two months beyond the default period shall be given.
- xi) DPRs should invariably include all the mandatory certificates viz. Environment and forest clearance, availability of land, free from encumbrances, non-duplication certificate and availability of stone and sand quarry in the proximity of the project (in case of road projects) etc.
- xii) The DPRs should be prepared as per the check-list prescribed by respective line Ministries and on standard software for which the Ministry will arrange training/workshops for the State Government officials and for potential vendors nominated by States as part of the Ministry's Vendor Development efforts.
- xiii) During the consultation process, many State Governments requested that the cost of preparation of DPRs may be included in the project cost. In response to query by Secretary, DoNER with regard to the cost incurred by the States on preparation of DPR, the State representatives assured him that they would advise the same shortly after consultations. After receiving response from all NE State Governments, the same shall be considered suitably for incorporating the costs of soil testing for buildings and bridges and DPR preparation in the NLCPR guidelines.
- xiv) The State shall also certify that these projects have not been taken up or proposed to be taken with any other funding mechanism in the past or during the current financial year.
- xv) On the receipt of DPRs, Technical Wing of Ministry of DoNER will carry out preliminary scrutiny. The consolidated queries of Technical Wing, if any, shall be circulated, online/through e-mail, to the State Planning and Implementing Department within 15 days. In case the reply is not received within the period of 15 days from receipt of query, it shall be presumed that the State is not

- interested to pursue the project and the project will be deleted within seven days thereafter without any further notice.
- xvi) On receipt of reply to the queries raised by the Technical Wing, the DPRs will be sent to the vetting agency/line Ministries, with the request to vet the DPRs. The vetting agency shall raise consolidated queries, if any, which will be forwarded to the State Government through Ministry, which will be required to furnish replies to the same within a period of 15 days. If these queries are not settled within 15 days of communication, the State Government will be given another 15 days for furnishing replies to the query from the vetting agency, failing which it will be presumed that the State is not interested to pursue the project and the said project will stand rejected. However, if the State Government finds it difficult to collect data for a reply and gives cogent and substantial reasons, further time of up to 30 days may be provided and not beyond.
- xvii) Vetting agency will give techno-economic vetting of the projects within one month from receipt of replies to the consolidated queries within a period one month. In case any further query is raised because of unsatisfactory replies or issues arising, these should be settled before or on the date the project is placed for sanction before the Screening Committee.
- xviii) The line Ministries/NITI Aayog/NEC will be approached in parallel for non-duplication certificates and for certifying if the project is fit for gap funding. The line Ministries/NITI Aayog/NEC shall give their comments/observations within one month else it will be presumed to be clear for non-duplication and gap funding angle. In any event, these views shall be finally provided at the time of project sanctions.
- xix) NLCPR Committee meeting shall be convened periodically to consider sanctioning of the cleared projects, duly vetted by the vetting agency and will also record the information/views on non-duplication and gap funding character.
- xx) **Release of funds:** States laid great priority on streamlining the release of funds by the Ministry. Therefore, after sanction of the project by the inter-ministerial NLCPR Committee, the administrative and financial sanction shall be issued after following the laid down procedures. Tendering process shall be finalised within two months by following transparent process of bidding and Work Order issued. A copy of the tender shall mandatorily also be placed on the NEC and NLCPR websites. Ministry of DoNER would release funds in three instalments comprising 30%, 50% and 20%.

Release of first instalment of funds: 30 % of the central share i.e. 90% of the total approved cost of the project, shall be released along with administrative and financial sanction.

Release of second instalment of funds: 50% of the central share subject to the condition that 50 % of the funds released as first instalment has been utilised by the State for the project and commensurate with physical progress and based on need for advancing work rather than for retention during the non-working seasons.

Release of third and final instalment of funds: 20% of the central share subject to the condition that 90% of the released amount, including full State share of 10% stands utilised and on achievement of 70% of physical progress of the project.

- xxi) States shall release funds to the implementing agency within a period of 15 days from receipt from this Ministry. A copy of the release order shall be uploaded on the NLCPR website and/or sent to the Ministry and will be taken

note of for further releases in this and other projects of the State as an instance of diversion of funds.

- xxii) In case of delayed projects, not more than two extensions shall be given, with overall cumulative ceiling of one and half years (two working seasons) from the original date of completion of the project. Reasons for delay shall be approved by Principal Secretary/Secretary, Planning, on the recommendations of Secretary of the Implementing Department. In the event that the project remains incomplete, the State may retain the projects for pursuit by themselves so that the Ministry may transfer the funds to other projects selected for the States. In case the delay is on account of reasonable justification acceptable to the Ministry, this requirement may be waived on a case to case basis.

After approval of the minutes by the Hon'ble Minister, DoNER, concurrence of the IFD, DoNER to the proposed simplified procedure shall be obtained before revising the NLCPR Guidelines accordingly.

Item No.3: Construction of Roads and Bridges in NE Region.

After detailed deliberation, the Committee decided that all the NE States should be consulted before taking a final view in the matter.

Item No.4: Construction of Mini Sports Complex at E. Lungdar in Mizoram.

The NLCPR Committee noted that DPR of the Project has been vetted by M/S WAPCOS Ltd. for an amount of Rs. 435.00 lakh.

2. After detailed deliberations, Committee recommended sanction of this project for an amount of Rs.434.96 lakh as under:-

S. No	Item of work	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
1.	Earthwork (Cutting & filling)	21.24
2.	C/o pavilion cum dressing room	36.36
3.	C/o Retaining wall on South Eastern side	12.52
4.	C/O Retains wall on South Eastern side	8.45
5.	c/o Breast wall with stone masonry gallery on western side	47.60
6.	C/O Gallery cum Fencing on Southern side	30.18
7.	C/O RCC gallery on North-eastern side	17.71
8.	C/O RCC gallery cum accommodation on south-Eastern side	24.41
9.	C/O Side drain with RCC cover	27.41
10.	C/O Under ground drain	85.91
11.	Up gradation of Approach Roads:	3.66
12.	Fencing of Football playground	7.05
13.	C/O Tennis court with Stone Missionary galleries	16.85
14.	C/O Multipurpose hall cum Indoor Stadium	93.80
15.	Construction of Public urinals for Ladies/Gents-South side	1.81
	Total	434.96

3. The Project has been recommended for sanction with the following conditions:-
- (i) Transparency should be maintained in tendering process and the State Government should ensure that the tender has been called on competitive basis by giving wide publicity in print media and website etc. and the works have been awarded within 3 months of its sanction, even

- without waiting for the release of funds from state government to implementing agency.
- (ii) Award of contract will be on turnkey basis.
 - (iii) The state government should follow all codal formalities and strictly adhere to the project implementation schedule and physical targets given in the DPR.
 - (iv) The project implementation by the state government will be governed by the rules/conditions stipulated in the guidelines of NLCPR.

Item No.5: Construction of Table Tennis Training Centre-Cum Basketball Court at Mission Vengthlang, Alzawl in Mizoram.

The NLCPR Committee noted that DPR of the Project has been vetted by M/S WAPCOS Ltd. for an amount of Rs.369.87 lakh.

2. After detailed deliberations, Committee recommended sanction of this project for an amount of Rs. 369.87 lakh as under:-

S. No.	Items of work	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
	Civil Works	
1.	Ground Floor	175.87
2.	Basement-I	72.52
3.	Basement -II	39.38
	TOTAL	287.76
4.	Add 10% for Internal Water Supply & Sanitary installation	11.19
5.	Add 12.5% for Internal Electrification	35.97
6.	Add 5% for External Service connections.	14.39
7.	Fire Fighting (wet riser system @ Rs.565 per sqm as per MPWD SOR Vol.II Annexure)	6.62
8.	Resisting Earthquake Force@ Rs.1190 per sqm.	13.94
	Total Cost	369.87

3. The Project has been recommended for sanction with the following conditions:-

- (i) Transparency should be maintained in tendering process and the State Government should ensure that the tender has been called on competitive basis by giving wide publicity in print media and website etc. and the works have been awarded within 3 months of its sanction, even without waiting for the release of funds from state government to implementing agency.
- (ii) Award of contract will be on turnkey basis.
- (iii) The state government should follow all codal formalities and strictly adhere to the project implementation schedule and physical targets given in the DPR.
- (iv) The project implementation by the state government will be governed by the rules/conditions stipulated in the guidelines of NLCPR.

Item No.6: Re- prioritisation of retained projects from the Priority Lists 2012-13 & 2013-14 submitted by the Govt. of Mizoram.

The NLCPR Committee deliberated at length on the prioritisation of the projects from the priority list 2012-13 and 2013-14 submitted by the Government of Mizoram. The decision was evolved to accord priority to the projects which are at advance stage.

Item No.7: Project, "Construction of Flyover on Drop Gate-Nagerjala-Battala-Fire Service and Melarmath area (Length 2500 M approx.) at Agartala, Tripura amounting to Rs. 227.52 crore" for consideration of retention /clearance under NLCPR scheme.

After detailed deliberation, the NLCPR Committee recommended for funding a portion of total cost (i.e. 227.52 crore) of the captioned project. The decision was evolved for financial assistance of Rs. 94.71 crore only on the ratio of 90% Central share (Rs.85.24 crore) and 10% State share (Rs.9.47 crore). The balance amount of Rs.132.81 crore shall be borne by the Govt. of Tripura, against the dropping of the following two projects of Tripura which were cleared in the priority list 2014-15:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Cost (Rs. in crore)
i)	Improvement of Ushabazr (near Airport) Jaipur-Camperbazar-Amtali Road (NH-44) (Length: 22km) West Tripura District	67.21
ii)	Improvement of road from NH -44 Junction to Kamalasagar (Kasba Kalibari) (Length: 12.50 km)	27.50
	Total	Rs. 94.71

Item No.8: Re-prioritisation of retained Projects of Government of Tripura from the Priority List for the year 2012-13 and 2013-14.

The NLCPR Committee noted that it is not worthy to re-prioritise all the 12 recommended projects of the State Government of Tripura due to budget constraint and equitable distribution of fund among North Eastern States.

2. However, on the request of the State Government representative present in the Meeting, the Committee agreed to consider the retained project of priority list of 2011-12 (State Priority No.1) namely "Construction of Tripura Institute of Technology (Phase-II), West Tripura" for the estimated cost of Rs. 90.00 crore for giving part financial assistance of Rs. 60.00 crore only, subject to furnishing of a undertaking by the State Govt. that the balance amount of Rs. 30.00 crore will be borne by the Govt. of Tripura for this project and in this regard confirmation shall be rendered by the State Govt. immediately. Otherwise, another two projects as per details given below will be taken up for sanction against the re-prioritised projects.

Sl No.	Name of the Project	Year of Retention	Estimate Cost (Rs. in crore)	State Priority
1	Establishment of Veterinary College (phase-II A), West Tripura	2012-13	44.33	2
2	North District Hospital-Phase-II (Hospital Quarters)	2009-10	14.62	6
	Total		58.95	

3. The final decision will be taken on the receipt of undertaking / confirmation from the Government of Tripura.

Item No.9: Any other Item with permission of the Chair.

The observations of CEA on some of the cleared projects of 2014-15 of Power sector of Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim were discussed in the Meeting in presence of the authorized representatives of the State Governments. Shri Vivek Goel, Director, CEA

representing the Ministry of Power informed the Committee that two new schemes viz. IPDS for urban areas and DDUGJY for rural areas with financial outlay of Rs 40,000 crore for each scheme, have been launched by Ministry of Power during 2014-15. The scope of work of Power projects under NLCPR scheme are also covered under the IPDS and DDUGJY schemes. He suggested that the State Government may first submit their projects to M/o Power for funding under these schemes and if some of the schemes/projects are not sanctioned by them, they could be posed for funding under NLCPR scheme. He further clarified that M/o Power is likely to finalize the list of projects to be selected for sanctioning under their schemes within two months after that they will forward their final comments after obtaining views of PFC and REC on the projects referred to them from M/o DoNER for Techno-economic vetting and non-duplication. Till such time Ministry of DoNER may keep these projects on hold. The Committee agreed to the suggestion of Director, CEA and also asked him to make sure that decision on N-E States are taken at the earliest.

The Committee also recommended that the maintenance related activity in the Power projects may not be supported under NLCPR scheme. Only major refurbishment/up-gradation and augmentation works in the proposals of this sector should be funded under the NLCPR scheme if they are not sanctioned under any other scheme.
