

No.1/12/2010-Budget
Government of India
Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region

Subject: Summary record of discussions of consultation meeting taken by Secretary, DoNER on 15.11.2011 at 11.00 AM in Committee Room No. 243, Vigyan Bhavan Annexe, New Delhi with concerned Union Ministries/Departments on NLCPR-Central scheme.

List of participants is at Annexure – A

1. At the outset Secretary, DoNER welcomed the participants in the meeting and apprised them the rationale behind the NLCPR-Central scheme of Ministry of DoNER.
2. For over a decade now, most Central Ministries/Departments have been earmarking 10% of their GBS towards development of the North Eastern States. The total budgetary resources flow to the North Eastern States during the first three years of the 11th Five Year Plan is assessed at over Rs.80,000 crore. The net accruals to the NLCPR Pool into which the unspent amounts of the earmarked outlay of the non-exempted Ministries/Departments accrued and the expenditure of M/o DoNER under NLCPR scheme gets debited stands today at over Rs.10,000 crore. Against this backdrop, it is crucial to assess the level of effective and optimal utilisation of resources and infrastructure.
3. The scheme, NLCPR-Central has been formulated with the objective of enhancing effective and optimal utilisation of funds in the NLCPR Pool towards development of the North Eastern States. The scheme is not meant to supplement the existing schemes, but to fill critical gaps in the existing developmental programmes or schemes. As a Central sector plan scheme, projects of Union Ministries/Departments pertaining to subjects listed in the Union and Concurrent Lists have to be proposed for funding under the scheme. Expenditure incurred under the NLCPR-Central will be debited to the NLCPR Pool. The project cost will be over and above the Ministry's/Department's outlay for the 12th Plan.
4. Secretary, DoNER also highlighted possible proposals from few Ministries such as:
 - a) Agartala – Akhaura (Bangladesh) railway line of Ministry of Railways;
 - b) Comprehensive Power Transmission & Distribution projects in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim of Ministry of Power;
 - c) Establishment of weather forecasting Centres in NE States by Ministry of Earth Sciences
 - d) Construction of border patrolling tracts by Ministry of Defence;
 - e) Inland waterways projects of Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) of Ministry of Shipping.

5. At the request of Chairperson, Shri P.K. Pattanaik, Joint Secretary, M/o DoNER apprised the participants of the procedures to be followed by Ministries/Departments while proposing projects for funding under the NLCPR-Central scheme. He informed the participants that as per the scheme guidelines, Ministries/Departments have to pose the projects in their respective Annual Plan proposal to the Planning Commission for *in principle* approval. Once a project is approved in principle, the concerned Ministry/Department should immediately take up with Ministry of DoNER for the purpose of budgetary allocation i.e., for M/o DoNER to incorporate the project in its budget proposal. Appraisal and approval of the project as per the extant guidelines of plan schemes will be the responsibility of the implementing Union Ministry/Department.

6. So far, 6 (six) projects tentatively identified for funding under the NLCPR-Central as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of project	Ministry/Deptt./ Orgn.	Cost (Rs.crore)	Proposed for 2012-13 (AP) (Rs.crore)
1.	Strengthening of Power Transmission & Distribution System – Arunachal Pradesh	M/o Power	1860.63	108.62
2.	Strengthening of Power Transmission & Distribution System – Sikkim	M/o Power	1153.07	82.74
3.	Tuirial Hydro Electric Power Project - Mizoram	M/o Power	300.00*	100.00
4.	Agartala – Akhaura Railway link - Tripura	M/o Railways	-	100.00
5.	Construction of Slipway at Pandu (Guwahati) - Assam	IWAI, M/o Shipping	-	20.00
6.	Road connectivity to IWT terminals along NW-2 to nearest National Highway - Assam	IWAI, M/o Shipping	-	10.00
	Total			421.36

* Rs.300.00 crore is the amount of grant from M/o DoNER as per CCEA's approval of the project estimated at Rs.913.63 crore.

7. Ms. Rita Acharya, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Power raised the issue of maintenance in the context of Power Transmission & Distribution projects in Arunachal Pradesh. It was stated that Power Departments of State Governments may not have the capacity to maintain the transmission and distribution network so created. After a brief discussion, it was decided that Ministry of Power, at the time of formulating the project, should look into the issue and incorporate a feasible proposal for maintenance.

8. Mr. Sunil Kumar, Vice Chairman, expressed the inter-linkage between railway and inland waterway in the context of transportation of fuel for thermal power plants of Ministry of Power in Assam. In this regard, Secretary, DoNER advised that a Sub-Committee comprising of Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Power and IWAI/Ministry of Shipping be constituted under the chairmanship of Shri Sunil Kumar, Vice Chairman, IWAI to look into issue.

9. Dr. Ajit Tyagi, DG, Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) stated the need to have telecom backbone in a weather forecasting service. He expressed apprehension over the feasibility of setting up weather forecasting centres in many parts of NE region in view of the limited reach of telecom service. To this Secretary, DoNER advised that telecom component may be incorporated in the project proposal, where it is necessary.

10. It was stressed by Adviser (SP-NE), Planning Commission that the total cost of may be computed and broken down in indicating annual requirements.

11. The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

List of Participants

1. Smt. Jayati Chandra, Secretary, Ministry of DoNER
2. Dr. Ajit Tyagi, Director General, Indian Meteorological Department
3. Shri Sunil Kumar, Vice Chairman, IWAI, Ministry of Shipping
4. Shri Sudhir Raheja, Member (Planning), Airport Authority of India, Min. of Civil Aviation
5. Shri S.N. Brohmo Choudhury, Adviser (NE), Planning Commission
6. Dr. Subhash Sharma, Jt. Secretary, BRDB, Ministry of Defence
7. Smt. Rita Acharya, Jt. Secretary, Ministry of Power
8. Shri P.K. Pattanaik, Joint Secretary, Ministry of DoNER
9. Shri Devendra Singh, Executive Director (Planning), Ministry of Railways
10. Shri Ved Prakash Dudeja, Executive Director (Project Monitoring), Ministry of Railways
11. Shri B. Mishra, Executive Director (Corp. Planning), PGCIL, Ministry of Power,
12. Shri B. Mukhopadhyay, Scientist, Indian Meteorological Department,
13. Shri P.K. Gupta, Director (Coord.), Ministry of Defence
14. Shri JPN Singh, Director (NE), Ministry of Home Affairs
15. Dr. Uday Shanker, Director (IFD), Ministry of DoNER
16. Shri Umakant, Director, Ministry of DoNER
17. Shri S.D. Kaushik, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Shipping
18. Shri. U. Chatterjee, Deputy Secretary, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance
19. Smt. Prerna Aggarwal, General Manager, Airport Authority of India, Min. of Civil Aviation
20. Shri Ashok Pal, Dy. General Manager, PGCIL, Ministry of Power
21. Shri K. Guite, Director, Ministry of DoNER